Broadening HIV prevention

AIDS advocates say that a return to the activism of the 1980s is needed.

Gay marriage update Historic ruling in Oregon;

Mass. gov fights nuptials.



Tale of two chubbies Bruce Vilanch, Keala Settle co-star in touring 'Hairspray.'

see Arts section



Vol. 34 · No. 17 · 22 April 2004

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Schwarzenegger nixes gay prisoner's parole

by Ed Walsh

alling him a "danger to society," Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger blocked the parole of a gay prison-er last week, days before the inmate would have walked free for the first

time in nearly 20 years. Kevin Leigh was convicted of second-degree murder for killing Rick Di-amonon, a re-puted drug dealer, in a dispute over Dia-monon alleged-ly watering



Kevin Leigh

down cocaine. The crime took place in 1985 in

The crime took place in 1985 in Topanga Canyon, in rural Los Angeles County, when Leigh was 21 years old. In his veto message, the governor noted Leigh's clean criminal record before the crime and lauded him for being discipline-free during his entire 19-year incarceration. The governor listed Leigh's educational accomplishments behind bars and his successful completion of the rapeutic programs. completion of therapeutic programs including Alcoholics Anonymous and

including Alconomics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

"But I will not overlook or negate the gravity of the particularly repugnant crime Mr. Leigh committed simply because he has behaved as he should in prison," Schwarzenegger wrote.

Leigh confessed to authorities and to the Bay Area Reporter that he drowned Diamonon after the two fought in a Diamonon after the two fought in a creek. Just before the drowning, Diamonon had been shot twice but the wounds were not life threatening. Leigh blames his friend, Mark Smith, for the shooting. Smith, who was paroled in September 2003, denies any involvement in the shooting.

"While I may never know whether it was Mr. Leigh or Mr. Smith who shot Mr. Diamonon, I do know that it was Mr. Leigh who drowned him," the

was Mr. Leigh who drowned him," the governor wrote. "And Mr. Leigh did so in an especially cruel and atrocious way given that this man was un-armed, posed no threat, and had just been shot and wounded in the hip

and arm."

In a telephone interview from prison on Tuesday, April 20, Leigh called the governor's decision "politics as usual." He told the B.A.R. that he plans to appeal the decision through the courts. Leigh was notified that he would not be released on Monday, April 19. He said the hardest part was to phone his friends and released on the courts. part was to phone his friends and rel-atives to tell them that he wouldn't be

In an e-mail response to the B.A.R., Smith wrote: "I am saddened and dis-mayed that Kevin [Leigh] has blamed me for shooting Rick [Diamonon] be-cause I did not, and I think the judge page 11 ▶

HRC set to endorse Kerry

by Matthew S. Bajko

enator John Kerry's opposition to gay marriage is not likely to cost him the endorsement of the country's leading gay rights group, the Washington D.C.-based

Human Rights Campaign.
Speaking before members of the organization's San Francisco chapter Saturday night, HRC President Chapter Saturday night (Saturday News) ident Cheryl Jacques said the like-ly Democratic presidential nomi-nee will be hearing "good news" once the board officially votes on giving its nod to the junior senator from Massachusetts.

from Massachusetts.
"Our board will take a good, hard look at Senator John Kerry and you will soon hear our decision on endorsing him, which will be good news," Jacques said. "This is a tremendous candidate. He has the best record on gay issues ever the best record on gay issues ever

the best record of gay issues ever;
better than [former President Bill]
Clinton, better than [former Vice
President and presidential candidate Al]
Gore, better than [former New Jersey Senator and presidential candidate Bill] Bradley.

During the primary campaign, HRC held



HRC President Cheryl Jacques greets supporters at a reception Saturday in San Francisco.

back from endorsing any of the leading candidates. Now that the original field of 10 has been whittled down to Kerry, who is set to receive his party's nomination in Boston in July, gay rights groups are beginning to give

him their full support, though that support is tempered by his antigay marriage stance. "Am I disappointed he doesn't endorse gay marriage? Absolutely. But a lot of our he-

page 14 ▶

by Matthew S. Bajko

alifornia's gay community marked another historic first Tuesday when a state Assembly committee voted to support a measure that would legalize gay mar-

measure that would legalize gay marriage. The vote marks the first time any state legislative body has voted in favor of issuing marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples. During an 8 a.m. hearing Tuesday, April 20, the Assembly Judiciary Committee voted 8 to 3 to support AB1967, the Marriage License Non-Discrimination Act introduced by openly gay Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco).

"I saw in the eight age votes a great pride in the fact that people were standing up for civil rights – not special privileges, but civil rights," said Leno after the vote. "Civil rights took a major step forward in California today."

While savoring the bill's first legislative victory, gay rights activists warned the fight has only just begun.

"While this is an important victory, we have several hurdles to overcome before this bill becomes law. And we will need each and every one of you to help bring us closer to our dream of marriage equality," said Geoffrey Kors, executive director of Equality Califor-nia, in an e-mail sent to his group's members. AB1967 would make a simple change to California law and define marriage as a union

between "two persons" instead of as a union between a man and a woman. The change would allow same-sex couples to obtain a marriage license.

The marriage bill would permit – but not

require – pastors, rabbis, and other clergy to perform marriages for same-sex couples. It would make no other changes with respect to marriage law, leaving intact Proposition 22, which prohibits California from recognizing

gay mariages performed in other states.
All eight Democrats on the Judiciary
Committee voted in support, more than the
seven Democrats who voted last year at this

time in support of AB205, the sweeping domestic partners legislation set to take effect

mestic partners legislation set to take effect January 1, 2005.

"The times they are a changing," said a delighted Leno. "I have to continue to work with my fellow Assembly members to make sure we have the necessary 41 votes to pass this on the floor."

He said after today's vote, that no longer seems so quit of reach.

seems so out of reach.

"Today every Democrat on the Judiciary
Committee spoke eloquently for the need for
this bill and then voted for it. I was proud of
my colleagues," he said.

The legislation now moves on to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, where it faces an uphill battle due to the state's falter-

Proponents of same-sex marriage listen as Assemblyman Mark Leno speaks to reporters after

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Delay in trial of men charged with killing TG

by Zak Szymanski and Cynthia Laird

he trial of three men accused of murdering transgender teenager Gwen Araujo was put on hold Wednesday, April 21, after the judge decided to hold a hearing without the jury present to determine whether the six-hour videotaped statement of one of the witnesses can be played in open court.

open court.

The trial is expected to resume Monday, April 26 before Alameda County Superior Court Judge Harry Sheppard at the Hayward Hall of Justice.

Hall of Justice.
Nicole Brown, who determined Araujo was biologically a male at a house party in the East Bay city of Newark on October 4, 2002, was cross-examined Wednesday as defense attorneys tried to point out inconsistencies in her testimony.
On Monday, Brown was un-

in her testimony.

On Monday, Brown was unable to testify due to a personal emergency. On Tuesday, she took the stand and detailed how she went into the bathroom with Araujo to check Araujo's biological gender. She told the court that she "freaked out" when she felt a penis under Araujo's skirt.

Brown said she screamed and said, "I can't believe this is a fucking man."

ing man.

ing man."

.It was that discovery that led to the fatal attack on Araujo.

Araujo was born as a male named Eddie but lived as a female. Jose Merel, Jason Cazares, and Michael Magidson, all 24, are charged with murder and a hate crime enhancement for the death of Araujo. The prosecution and defense agree that Araujo was killed in the early morning hours of October 4, 2002, after defendants learned that her biological sex was male. At least two men, Magidson and Merel, reportedly had sexual relations with Araujo.

had sexual relations with Araujo. All three defendants have pleaded not guilty to the charges, with attorneys for Magidson and Cazares claiming their clients acted in reaction to a "deception."

Brown, who began her testimony Thursday, April 15, was grilled by defense attorneys on Wednesday. She reiterated that Merel "was freaking out, tripping, and crying" as he walked down the hallway at his house after it was learned Araujo was biologi-



Nicole Brown

cally a male.
"I'm not gay. I don't like men,"
Brown quoted Merel as saying.
She testified that she tried to console him.

sole him.
Potentially, the most damaging bit of information came from an audiotape of Brown speaking to someone who called her from jail. In the tape, Brown said, "I knocked that he/she out." In court, Brown claimed that statement was a lie and that she really didn't mean it. also admitted that she initially She also admitted that she initially lied to police about hearing the group talk about getting some shovels. And she also discussed how she at first told police she didn't know who the men were who confronted "Lida," the name Araula was a sund the defendants and io used around the defendants and

Attorney Tony Serra, who's representing Cazares, asked, "Isn't it true that when she [Araujo] was on the ground you kicked her?"
"No," Brown replied, shaking

her head.

Thursday testimony

Witnesses last week included Dr. Sharon Van Meter, who per-formed the autopsy on Araujo; Pearl Serrano, Araujo's sister; and Brown.

To the surprise of many, Merel's attorney did not make an opening statement last week.

During his opening statement, Serra told the court that his client did not participate in the actual

killing.
Michael Thorman, Magidson's attorney, said in his opening state-ment that his client acted out of "shock and revulsion" that he had been "deceived into having homoasserted that speculations about Araujo's gender drew little concern from Magidson, but Thorman said that Magidson was so convinced that Araujo was a woman that he refused peer pressure to put his hand under her skirt to determine her genitals, opting instead to treat her as a lady.

"He was treating her with the

respect and dignity of a woman," said Thorman, who added that "if Mike knew he was dealing with a man," it would have been expected and acceptable for him to grope

Araujo's genitals.

Van Meter, who testified first, Van Meter, who testified Irrst, described Araujo's injuries while pointing to photographs of the victim's body. The cause of Araujo's death, she said, was "asphyxiation associated with blunt force trauma to the head." Either injury could have been fatal without the other, she said, and each was inflicted.

while the victim was still alive.
Serra asked Van Meter to describe the length of Araujo's skirt, then re-emphasized, for the jury, that Araujo had been wearing a nini-skirt on the night she was

Araujo's sister Serrano, who said Araujo began living as a woman fulltime at the age of 14, woman fulltime at the age of 14, defied Serra's suggestion that Araujo may have appeared in male clothes on occasion. "She wouldn't wear them. She was true to who she was," said Serrano, although what constitutes "male" presentation for women – who traditionally have more leeway with gendered codes – was never

Finally, Brown's testimony on Finally, Brown's testimony on Thursday included many in-stances of her not recalling who was present at various house par-ties and conversations. She did acties and conversations. She did acknowledge that she and Araujo had a physical altercation early in their acquaintanceship, but that the two women were beginning to get along, and had made a beer run together on the night that Araujo was killed. She also acknowledged that at least a few days (if not several) before Araujo was killed, she participated in a conversation with the defendants that speculated whether Araujo was male.

Ed Walsh contributed to this



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Theresa Sparks named to Police Commission

ransgender activist Theresa Sparks won approval from the Board of Supervisors Tuesday, April 20 and will join the

Tuesday, April 20 and will join the newly reorganized San Francisco Police Commission.

Sparks, a former co-chair of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club and a former member of the city's Human Rights Commission, will be the only out LGBT person on the new seven-member panel. She is also the first transgender person named to the commission. commission

commission.
Others who were approved include Douglas Chan, Joe Alioto Veronese, Joseph Marshall, Peter Keane, and Gayle Orr-Smith. Former City Attorney Louise Renne, the last nominee, was being con-sidered Wednesday, after the Bay

sidered Wednesday, after the Bay Area Reporter went to press. "We're very proud of Theresa," said Alice Club co-chair Rich Kowalewski, who added he be-lieved the newly constituted com-mission would be more effective. He added that Sparks has been working for years on issues related to transgenders and law enforcement. She worked with former commission President Dennis Herrera, now the city attorney, and with former Police Chiefs Fred Lau and Earl Sanders in es-tablishing training programs for SFPD personnel on transgender



Theresa Sparks

Sparks said she was "thrilled" to be appointed.

"I think we need a strong voice

on the reformed commission and I think I can be that strong voice," Sparks said Wednesday morning.

She thanked Supervisor Tom Ammiano for appointing her to the body, and noted he was the author of voter-approved Propo-sition H, which created the new

commission.
"I think the reformed commission will better reflect the attitudes of the city," Sparks added.
Kowalewski also thanked Amarica.

miano for his support with Sparks's nomination. When

Mayor Gavin Newsom announced his appointees last month, there were no openly LGBT people among them, leading some comamong them, leading some com-munity members to express con-cerns. Ammiano, however, was temporarily appointed to the Rules Committee specifically to help with selecting the board's three nominees, of which Sparks

The commission is charged with supervising and setting pro-cedures for the San Francisco Police Department, and was criticized in late 2002 and 2003 for its handling of the "Fajitagate" scandal, in which many of the department's command staff were inment's command staff were in-dicted by a grand jury for alleged-ly covering up three off-duty offi-cers' possible hate-motivated as-sault on two civilians. Although the command staff indictments were eventually dismissed – and many of the command staff who had been charged have been de-clared "factually innocent." – wotclared "factually innocent," – vot-ers last year passed Proposition H, which calls for commission ap-pointments to be shared between the mayor and Board of Supervi-

Previously, the mayor alone made all the appointments to the

made all the appointments to the commission.

Mayor Gavin Newsom's appointees are Renne, Marshall, Chan, and Alioto Veronese.

The new Police Commission's first meeting will be May 5.



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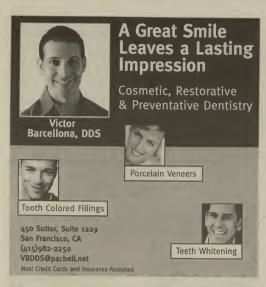
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News in brief

by Cynthia Laird

Financial planning workshop

Wells Fargo, in conjunction with the Golden Gate Business Association, the LGBT Community Center, and the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, will host "Dollars and Sense: Fiwill nost Dollars and Sense: Fi-nancial Solutions for the LGBT Community" Saturday, April 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Rainbow Room at the LGBT Com-munity Center, 1800 Market Street, in San Francisco. The seminar will address the financial questions of particular concern to the LGBT community. The keynote speaker will be Walter B. Schubert, founder and CEO of the Gay Financial Net-work and the first openly gay member of the New York Stock Ex-change. Presentations will also be made in the areas of home ownership, investing and wealth manage ment, and business development.

The event is free, but space is limited. Those interested in attending can RSVP online at www.viplineup.com/wellsfargo-

BCA town hall Sat.

Breast Cancer Action's seventh annual town hall meeting for ac-tivists will take place Saturday, April 24, from 1-5 p.m. at the Oak-land Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th Street, second floor. Entitled "Taking Care in a Toxic Time," the event will include a dedication ceremony, workshops, and a keynote speech by Dr. Sandra Hernandez, chief executive officer of the San Francisco Foundation and the for-mer San Francisco health director. Workshops include such topics as questioning mammography, re-search, and moving from illness to activism. Anne Lamott will serve as mistress of ceremonies.

While the event is free, donations are strongly encouraged. For more information, including childcare, ASL, and other special needs, call (415) 355-9988.

AB205 for families

Find out how the new Domestic Partner Rights and Responsi-

bilities Act of 2003 will affect bilities Act of 2003 Will affect LGBT families. Our Family Coali-tion will have a workshop on AB205 this Saturday, April 24 at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street. Attorney Deb L. Kinney will explain the me-chanics of registering, explore the fundamentals of the new law, which goes into effect in January

which goes into effect in January 2005, and delve into which of the nearly 300 rights and responsibilities granted under the law will affect LGBT families.

To register for the workshop, call OFC at (415) 981-1960. Free childcare will be provided in the center's KidSpace. If children are in diapers, please RSVP to (415) 865-5553.

YGP meeting Saturday

The Youth Gender Project is treating new programs to serve transgender, gender variant, intersex, and questioning youth ages 25 and under and organizers are seeking input at a community meeting Saturday, April 24 from 2-4 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street. YGP is a youth-led organization working to empower and advocate for TGIQ youth. For more information, call (415) 865-5625 or e-mail ygp@youthgenderproject.org.

Housing meeting

Housing meeting
Mercy Housing and AF Evans
Development recently won a request for proposal to develop residential housing on the property
of the UC Extension off Laguna
Street and will hold a community
meeting Tuesday, April 27 to discuss the project. AF Evans' Ruthie
Bennett said that the plan calls for
the development of around 500
housing units, both affordable
and market rate. All will be rental
properties. The number of units is

properties. The number of units is not definite, Bennett said. Tuesday's meeting will take place at the First Baptist Church, 7 Octavia Street (across from the LGBT Community Center), at Waller, from 6:30-8 p.m.

Dine out Thursday

Two Bay Area AIDS organiza-tions are hosting "Dining Out for Life" benefits next Thursday, April 29. In San Francisco, the Stop AIDS Project will benefit from more than 100 restaurants throughout the city that will donate 25 percent of diners' dinner food bills to the organization that works to prevent HIV/AIDS. An after-party will take place at Jillian's in the Metreon. For a list of participating restaurants, visit www.diningoutforlife.com or call (415) 575-0150, ext. 260.

In the East Bay, the Center for AIDS Services will benefit if people dine at any one of numerous restaurants in several cities, in-cluding Oakland, Berkeley, Emeryville, Alameda, Danville, Orinda, and Walnut Creek. Most Orinda, and Walnut Creek. Most restaurants are participating for dinner only, but some are making the donations for lunch and breakfast as well. For a list of participating eateries, visit www.thecenteroakland.org or call (510) 82.0632

PI fund drive

Merryvale Vineyards in the Napa Valley has teamed up with Project Inform in an effort to raise money to support the AIDS infor-mation nonprofit. Now through June 30, Merryvale will donate \$5 from the sale of every bottle of 2000 Profile red blend (\$79 average retail) and 2000 and 2001 Silette Chardonnay (\$45) sold in participating markets to support Project Inform's HIV/AIDS treat-ment information and advocacy

programs.
Participating markets include some wine shops as well as restaurants in San Francisco, and other Bay Area and Northern California bay Area and Northern Cambrina cities, as well as markets in South-ern California and other states. For example, Castro Village Wines is a participant, as are Destino, Jardiniere, and Kuleto's restau-rants in the city.

Additionally, friends of Project Additionally, friends of Project Inform can save 20 percent on these award-winning wines from now until May 31, and Merryvale will donate the \$5 per bottle from these sales also. For more information on the sale, e-mail tastingroom@merryvale.com or call toll-free 1-888-963-0573, ext. 439 or 440, and mention "Friends of Project Inform" discount when placing an order. Merryvale is lo-cated at 1000 Main Street in St.

For more information on par-ticipating markets, visit www.projectinform.org or www.merry-vale.com. ▼

Center hires economic development director

by Matthew S. Bajko

fter a three-month search, the LGBT Community Cen-ter hired Ken Stram, a former Clinton administration official, to be director of economic de-

velopment programs at the center. Stram, who began work Mon-day, April 19, will work with Deputy Executive Director Rebec-ca Rolfe on workforce development, micro-enterprise program-ming, and home ownership pro-

grams.

"If I had to write my own job description this would be it. And it is also wonderful to give back to the community," said Stram, 40, who married his partner, Steavan Campbell, on Valentine's Day.

Stram served as a Clinton appointee on the U.S. Small Business Administration where he expressive.

Administration where he oversaw congressional and legislative affairs and had responsibility for all



NEDO head Ken Stram

SBA field offices, totaling 69 of 2,000 employees. He moved to San Francisco five years ago and has worked on several projects and opened his own consulting

Locally, he has worked in col-

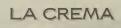
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Thursday, April 29, 2004



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Asia SF	415-255-ASIA
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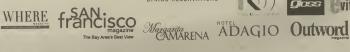
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BAY AREA REPORTER

Volume 34, Number 17 22 April 2004

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Marriage progress

ciary Committee to move Assembly-man Mark Leno's (D-San Francisco) same-sex marriage bill on to the Appropri-ations Committee was a historic first step— but by no means is the fight over. Eight Assembly Democrats voted the bill out of committee this week, and we commend them for their action. Considering that them for their action. Considering that Leno's bill was stuck in the Rules Committee until only last Thursday, it was good to see a unanimous vote from Judiciary Committee Democrats, including, of course, openly gay Assemblyman John Laird (D-Santa Cruz). Others on the panel included longtime straight allies such as Sally Lieber (D-Mountain View) and John Longville (D-Rialto). Assemblymembers Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara), Ellen Corbett (D-San Leandro), Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento), Lloyd Levine (D-San Fernando Valley), and Cindy Montanez (D-San do Valley), and Cindy Montanez (D-San Fernando) also voted in favor of the bill,

which seeks to remove gender from the state's marriage law, allowing two persons to receive a marriage license.

Leno called us early last Thursday morning, ecstatic that AB1967 had finally been referred to the Judiciary Committee at the last minute. Of course, now the real work begins as Leno seeks to line up votes to get the bill out of the Appropriations Committee. If AB1967 clears that hurdle, Leno needs a minimum of 41 votes for the Assembly to approve the legislation. We don't know if that will happen this year, but momentum seems to be shifting our way. State Democrats need to get on board and follow the lead rats need to get on board and follow the lead of their colleagues on the Judiciary Committee. They must stand up for what is right, and not cave in to election-year politics as an excuse to oppose AB1967.

Hours after the vote in California, a judge in Oregon ruled that Multnomah County, which includes Portland, must stop the same-set matriages that have been taken.

the same-sex marriages that have been tak-ing place for several weeks; but he also up-held the validity of the 3,000 marriages already performed and gave the Legislature time to rework the state's marriage laws. That's another historic step and Judge Frank Bearden's order making the existing same

fect on May 20, just three days after same-sex marriages are to start in Massachusetts. The downside of Bearden's order, however is that while he agreed with the county that Oregon's marriage law was unconstitutional, he left open the door for the Leg-islature to craft a civil union-type law instead of marriage. Of course, as we know, separate is not equal, and civil unions are not equal to marriage. The Ore-gon case is expected to reach the state Supreme Court. Meanwhile, in Massachusetts, Gov-ernor Mitt Romney, a Repub-

lican, is desperately attempting to stop same-sex marriages be-**Editorial**

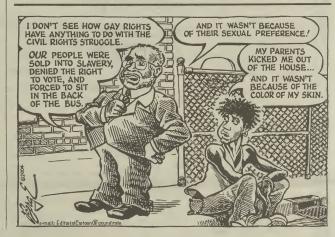
fore they start next month. From our view some 3,000 miles away, Romney's last-ditch effort to get special emergency authority from the Legislature to ask the Supreme Judicial Court to delay its ruling looks like the last gasp in a losing bat-tle. The Massachusetts high court has ruled not once but twice on the issue, and was quite deliberate in its 180-day timetable in

the initial ruling last November. Most legal scholars don't think Romney's ploy will work, and county clerks throughout the state are beginning to prepare for next month's same-sex weddings.

Even more absurd than Romney's actions, however, is the move by Massachusetts state Representative Emile Goguen. He has announced legislation seeking to remove the four justices who ruled in favor of marriage equality. Goguen, voted against a constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage but allow civil unions, but said he would carry the legislation at the request of

carry the legislation at the request of an antigay group, the Article 8 Alliance. This too, is unlikely to

So in fits and starts, samesex marriage is moving forward in some states. With some 7,000 same-sex couples states. With some 7,000 same-sex couples now married in San Francisco and Oregon, and more expected next month in Massachusetts, maybe our opponents will begin to see the very real need for marriage equality and realize that society won't crumble if we are all treated equally.



amazing opportunity

by Geoffrey Kors

n Tuesday, as I prepared to testify in support of Equality California's Mar-riage License Non-Discrimination Act, legislation authored by San Francisco Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francis-co), it struck me that it was just a year ago co), it struck me that it was just a year ago this month that I sat in the same seat testifying before the same committee in support of AB205, EQCA's Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act. I opened my testimony on that day by saying that it was not a proud moment for me to be asking the committee to support a law that would not even result in our relationships being treated as separate but equal, but rather they would remain separate and unequal.

I explained to the committee that while our goal was, and will remain, marriage equality, we knew we didn't have the votes to pass a same-sex marriage bill and that AB205 was needed in order to protect our families until California's discriminatory marriage law was overturned. I was joined by three wonderful people who shared how

by three wonderful people who shared how California's discriminatory treatment of lesbian and gay couples impacted their lives: Lydia Ramos, who could not recover her partner's body when she died in a car accident; Sharon Smith, who had no statutory right to sue for wrongful death when her partner was mauled to death by a neighbor's dogs in San Francisco; and Keith Bradkows-ki, who did not have the right to inherent ki, who did not nave the right to inherent his longtime partner's estate when he was killed in the American Airlines Flight that crashed into the World Trade Center on 9/11. These three individuals shared their personal tragedies so that others would not have to suffer as they did. They testified about how discrimination impacted their lives and why hundreds of thousands of Californians needed the protections that AB205 provides even though it falls far short of the protections afforded to married couples.

Our community was united in support of the legislation and we formed a coalition of LGBT, non-LGBT, civil rights, labor, religious, and community organizations and leaders in support of that bill. And we made history. California became the first state in the nation to pass comprehensive legislation protecting same-sex couples without a court order.

While the focus last year was solely on rights and benefits, the testimony this year focused on so much more. In addition to the more than 1,100 rights and benefits domestic partners are denied that are available

denied that are available to married couples, there was testimony about equality, love, commitment, and respect. The committee was reminded of the words of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, which declared earlier last November and again earlier this year that denying lesbian and gay couples the right to marry not only results in unequal treatment by government, but also, "works a deep and scarring hardship on a very real segment of the community for no rational reason."

When we talk about this issue we need to remember this fact. What kind of message

When we talk about this issue we need to remember this fact. What kind of message is our government sending to LGBT youth, who are struggling with issues of self-worth and have a disproportionally high suicide rate, when the state tells them that they are not worthy of being treated equality? How can we expect to prevent the vicious hate crimes when our government tells its citizens that our love is not equal and that it is

acceptable to treat us as second-class citi-zens? Our community has paid an awful price as a result of this unequal treatment that is motivated by bigotry. When the committee voted we prevailed

when the committee voted we prevailed with all eight of the committee's Democratic Party members voting in support of the bill and all three Republicans voting to oppose it. California stands alone as the only state in the nation to have passed a marriage equality bill out of a legislative policy committee. The fact that the bill won policy committee. The fact that the bill won by a bigger margin than our victory before the same committee last year on AB205 demonstrates that we have incredible momentum on our side. We have an amazing opportunity to reach our dream of true equality here in California by passing this historic. 6

by passing this historic legislation. It is too early to know if we will have **Guest Opinion**

the votes needed this year but it is not too early for each and every

person reading this who supports marriage equality to get involved. Equality California and Marriage Equal-Equality California and Marriage Equality California are building our chapters and hope to have one in every county by the end of the year. We need a grassroots army of marriage equality soldiers and we need you to enlist. Join the chapter in the county where you live and if there isn't one there yet, call us and we will work with you to start one. Information is available at marriage equality ca. org. And if you do not presently receive legislative updates and requests for action from EQCA, please sign up in our advocacy center at eqca. org. We outnour advocacy center at eqca.org. We out-numbered and out-organized the extreme right last year and are doing it again this year. And we must continue to do so today, tomorrow and forever. ▼

LETTERS

Politics is compromise

Politics is compromise

Tommi Avicolli Mecca claims that Supervisor Bevan Dufty "let down all the renters in District 8 ..." [Mailstrom, April 15]. First of all, Mr. Avicolli Mecca does not speak for me, and I am a renter in District 8. Secondly, Supervisor Dufty did exactly what I wish more politicians would do in our great city. He got both sides (of a very difficult issue) together and worked out a deal. It may not be perfect – what deal is? – but politics in never black and white. It takes compromise. Supervisor Dufty rose above the "my way or no way" attitude (are you listening Supervisor Daly?) and should be congratulated for his efforts. Keep up the good work, Supervisor Dufty.

Joe Mac San Francisco

Mailstrom

GOP candidate responds

I was interested to read the press release from the San Francisco Log Cabin Club published in Wayne Friday's political column in the April 1 edition ["United Democrats aim at White House, Senate"].

The SF LCR, whose former president, Colin Gallagher, I defeated in the recent March GOP Assembly primary election, declared: "Gail Neira is out of the

mainstream and we view her as very hostile to gay rights; we cannot allow her to carry the banner for the

Republican Party."

Here are the facts if integrity matters: (1) Yes, I'm a heterosexual. I have a right to my sexual

Here are the facts if integrity matters: (1) Yes, I'm a heterosexual. I have a right to my sexual orientation and have no reason to feel guilty about it. I am also president of the San Francisco Republican Alliance, which enjoyed the membership of two Republican gay charismatic personalities until they relocated. Our group is the largest and most active GOP volunteer club in this city; (2) Sexual orientation was never, never an issue nor discussed in my campaign against Colin Gallagher and that is provable; (3) Looking at the election results, it is clear that I drew the votes of many Republicans – both gay and straight. Mr. Gallagher and his de facto campaign manager, Christopher L. Bowman, ran a very poor campaign. Their national parent organization, to which the local chapter is chartered, plunked millions of dollars to purchase and produce television ads campaigning against the re-election of President George Bush. The timing of those national ads cost my opponent additional loss of votes and blaming me is immature. Their local Log Cabin Republican club is a largely inactive paper political organization that never tries to work in partnership with the party in which I am obviously identified as typical mainstream; (4) I have never demonstrated in any antioay campaign. I seek the votes of all residents of the party in which I am obviously identified as typical mainstream; (4) I have never demonstrated in anantigay campaign. I seek the votes of all residents of the 13th Assembly District. My reputation as a culturally and population diverse and compassionate advocate is well known in this town, being a native San Franciscan. I have also made monetary contributions for fundraisers combating AIDS.

It's too bad the Log Cabin Republican club has never evolved to a level of political maturity and diligence better exemplified by the more notable gay Democratic clubs. They don't whine, they just remobilize to win the next campaign. The Log Cabin members just throw tantrums and do little else to forge ahead. Laying blame onto others for their incompetence and laziness is no way to win an election.

laziness is no way to win an election

Gail E. Neira San Francisco

Feinstein out of touch

Senator Dianne Feinstein continues to disappoint us, as evidenced recently by her inappropriate comments at the funeral of slain police officer Isaac Espinoza, turning a very sad and somber occasion for grieving family and friends into a political event. Espinoza was an exemplary police officer committed to making San Francisco safer for all of us. We are all

making San Francisco safer for all of us. We are all grieving over the unnecessary loss of his life. But feeding into the emotional fervor at his funeral, Feinstein played to the crowd and called for the execution of Officer Espinoza's alleged killer.

Feinstein subsequently stated that if she had known that District Attorney Kamala Harris opposed the death penalty, she would not have supported her election. If Feinstein had been paying attention, she would have known that all three DA candidates opposed the death penalty, as do the vast majority of San Franciscans.

Kamala Harris is honoring her commitment to the voters of San Francisco in the face of intense pressure from Feinstein and the Police Officers Association. We

from Feinstein and the Police Officers Association. We know that it takes more courage to stand up for your principles than to tell people what they want to hear.

Mayor Gavin Newsom and District Attorney Kamala Harris have been in office for just over 100 days. Yet during this short period of time, Feinstein has found time to criticize both of them. Feinstein criticized Newsom for his act of civil disobedience in marrying same-sex couples because she believes that marriage is an institution reserved for heterosexuals. She is now criticizing Harris for not seeking the death

penalty. On both criticisms, Feinstein is out of touch

penalty. On both criticisms, Feinstein is out of touch with the people of San Francisco.

The future of San Francisco will be guided by Mayor Newsom, District Attorney Harris, City Attorney Dennis Herrera, Treasurer Susan Leal, Assessor Mabel Teng, and Assemblyman Mark Leno, among others. They represent San Francisco's new generation of leadership and we are proud to stand with them.

Rich Kowalewski and Laura Spanjian Co-Chairs Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club

Why marriage matters

On June 2, 1995, I sat in an office in a London borough waiting to sign the death certificate for my partner of 15 years. The day before I watched in horror as Rob took his last breath. In that poignant moment my heart was ripped from my chest with unbearable grief. I couldn't imagine going on living without him. When I was asked my relationship to Rob, I said lifetime partner. With a voice as cold and indifferent as a guard in a concentration camp, the woman looked directly in a concentration camp, the woman looked directly into my eyes and said, "That's not acceptable." Sensing my rage, my friend Adriano held me down in the chair. On the only official document recorded during our time together, another person's name appears as "present at death." There is no official record that

"present at death." There is no official record that shows we were a couple.

The debate going on is not about marriage. This is about the same kind of petty hatred and prejudice that stood behind all the earlier struggles for equality. What's really at stake here is the absence of morality from the top of our federal government right down to the county clerks entrusted to issue licenses. Some are attempting to be moral, but those great wheels of injustice driven by prejudice and hatred are attempting to stop the inevitable. They want to retain the silence that keeps us invisible. If one looks behind the passion of the antigay marriage initiative, there lies the real motive. It's not really about marriage at all. It's about legislating the de facto antigay prejudice that already exists in our government

gay prejudice that already exists in our government and culture. When fag bashers beat the next Matthew Shepard and tie him to a fence, leaving him in the cold to die, they want to be sure the murderers can still feel righteous in their murderous act of hatred. They want to be sure the U.S. government continues to condone antigay prejudice, inequality, and violence by continuing to turn their backs on full equality. Anything less than full equality says very clearly, yes we are sinners, yes we are less than heterosexuals, and yes they should love the sinner but hate the sin. So to my friends both love the sinner but hate the sin. So to my friends both straight and gay who say marriage isn't worth flighting for, I disagree. What I want is for my government to finally have the courage to stand up and say to the whole nation, the lesbian and gay community are full equal partners in the American dream. Anything less is immoral and unacceptable.

Robert Starkey, a.k.a The Truth Fairy

Separation of church and state

Separation of church and state

To the clergy members who went to City Hall last week to meddle with the mayor about same-sex marriage: what part of separation of church and state do they not understand? They are free to indoctrinate their flocks within their religious compounds. Same-sex couples do not trespass on these people's territory to condemn them for not supporting same-sex marriage. Thank God. This country upholds freedom for the people. It is evils like these clergy members who start creating ideological conflicts and moving the world into a war mode. the world into a war mode

San Francisco

A literal answer

If the B.A.R.'s Richard Dodds is really looking for If the B.A.R.'s Richard Doods is really looking lot a literal answer to the query posed in the first para-graph ["What is the opposite of a misogynist?"] in his review ["Three men stuffed in a freezing meat-locker," April 15], the counterpart to a misogynist is a misan-

> Walter L. Lilly San Francisco

Congrats to Viva Variety

Viva Variety celebrated its five-year anniversary April 13 with another spectacular show celebrating the diversity of LGBT performance arts with a stand-ing room only benefit for the AIDS Health Project.

It's about time our community discovers this jewel of a show and supports both the arts and deserving local nonprofits (each show is a benefit). As a long-time supporter of Viva Variety, it was a wonderful joy to see our community rise to its greatness in celebration of creativity humor and service. Long live Viva tion of creativity, humor, and service. Long live Viva Variety!

David Kirkpatrick

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It's the economy, stupid

by Paula Martinac

any supportive straight people recognize antigay governmental policies for what they really are: discriminatory and unfair. But is antigay discrimination also bad for the U.S. economy? This theory, proposed by a heterosexual economics professor, is one that more and more businesses and cities are taking seriously, and that could have a big impact on the future of gay people's pursuit of equal rights.

It's always tricky to talk about economics are taking and the support of the supp

pursuit of equal rights.

It's always tricky to talk about economics and gay people in the same breath. In order to justify denying us civil rights, right-wingers have often invoked the idea

woket the idea that gay people have huge reserves of disposable income that we spend like drunken sailors; and wealthy people, of course, can't be oppressed. For example, some conservatives have claimed that same-sex couples don't really need legal marriage rights, because we can easily buy ourselves the costly paperwork that simulates what our heterosexual counterparts enjoy for the small price of a marriage license.

enjoy for the stinar price of conriage license.

However, the research of economist M.V. Lee Badgett of the Institute for Gay and Lesbian Strategic Studies has pointed out the serious flaws in studies that indicate we're wealthier than straight people. Badgett's work actually suggests that many gay people – especially lesbians – earn less than the average American.

average American.
Fortunately, then, it's not the myth of gay wealth that feeds the economic-development theories of Professor Richard Florida, of Carnegie Mellon University, who authored *The Rise of the Creative Class*, recently available in paperback. In a nutshell, Florida believes that the cities with the most vibrant economies

most vibrant economies are the ones able to attract talented young entrepreneurs, technology geeks, artists, and writers, who will be at the forefront of this century's new "knowledge-based" economy.

Florida put his findings side by side with demographic

research on gay people by Gary Gates of the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C., and discovered that these economically flourishing cities are

also gay-friendly.

Florida is not suggesting that gay people are the brains and talent driving the new economy — a sort of "queer eye" for the financial sector. What he means is that members of the "creative class" — both straight and gay — consider tolerance of many different kinds of people an important factor in choosing a place to live. For them, gay-friendly cities like Minneapolis and Austin, Texas, are more attractive than, say, Pittsburgh, an old manufacturing city dominated by an aging population and largely deserted by the young. "I love Pittsburgh dearly" one 26-year-old college graduate recently wrote to the local newspaper, but noted that he opted to move "where the overall societal attitude is more in line with my own views."

views."

Professor Florida's theory is in sync with what much of the corporate world already knows: tolerance can be good for business. Indeed, if tolerance weren't a long-term financial plus, a third of all big companies – and the number is constantly growing – wouldn't bother to offer antidiscrimination policies and domestic-partner benefits to their employees.

Regrettably, government – especially the current administration in Washington – has been slow to follow the corporate lead, and federal policies all too often

influence local ones. Consider that Scott Bloch, the Bush-appointed official in charge of investigating discrimination in federal workplaces, went so far as to delete all references to sexual orientation from his office's Web site and handbooks – that is, until Democratic congressmembers blasted his action and the White House had to issue a statement rebuking him.

him.

So how can the gay movement make use of Professor Florida's work in its quest for social and legal equality? Here's a good example: Notoriously gay-unfriendly Cincinnati has a heinous law on its books called Article 12, which not only allows discrimination against gay people, but prevents the city from ever passing an antidiscrimination bill. Gay activists working to repeal Article 12 have found and fostered support from local business and civic leaders who've seen firsthand how Florida's theory works.

who've seen firsthand how Florida's theory works.
For example, Proctor & Gamble – the second largest employer in Cincinnati and a leading manufacturer of products for home and personal care – is on board for repeal of the antigay law. Apparently, even this powerhouse company is having a hard time attracting talented new college graduates.

"They think Cincinnati is not inclusive," one P&G official told reporters, and that reflects badly on the company. Which makes perfect sense; public opinion polls indicate that those in the 18-29 age bracket are the most gay-supportive, probably because many grew up having out gay relatives, knowing queer kids at school, or watching gay-themed movies and TV shows.

One important path to gay civil rights involves finding the most effective ways to communicate with and influence potential allies, including straight politicians and businesspeople who don't see why they should care about issues like same-sex marriage. And in many of these instances, the cliché "money talks" obviously still holds true.

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of eight books and editor in chief of Q Syndicate. She can be reached care of this publication or at Lesbian Notions@qsyndicate.com.

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New Leaf turns 30!



ew Leaf: Services for Our Community marked its 30th anniversary April 14 with a star-studded gala featuring actress Cloris Leachman, left, and actor Leslie Jordan at Teatro Zinzanni in San Francisco. The nonprofit agency provides mental health and substance abuse services to the LGBT community, runs an outreach program for elders, and serves as a clinical training program. Awards were presented to Macy's West/Passport, John P. De Cecco, Ph.D., filmmakers Debra Chasnoff and Helen Cohen, and Brad Harms, MFTI.

Bush's poor numbers good news for Boxer

by Wayne Friday

recent California consumer confidence poll conducted by the Survey and Policy Research Institute at San Jose State shows President **George Bush**'s California approval ratings having dropped from earlier in the year— to just 38 percent compared to 49 dropped from earlier in the yearto just 38 percent compared to 49
percent - in a poll completed
April 2. The recent numbers not
only give Republicans little hope
of the president picking up the
state's 55 electoral votes in November, but also give U.S. Senator
Barbara Boxer's (D) re-election
chances a huge boost.

Bush political operatives had
felt they at least had a "possible"
chance of carrying California, a
state Bush lost by l.3 million votes
in 2000. The new poll not only
shows his approval rating plummeting to 38 percent, but shows a
"disapproval" rating of 50 percent,
up from the 40 percent who
disapproved in January.
Indeed, the two areas that
Bush appears to have lost
confidence are the two
that his campaign
thought he was
strongest in – his handling of the
against terrorists, and also
the war in Iraq.
Credibility is
also a weak point for the presi-

Our Man Friday

also a weak point for the president, whose poll numbers went through the roof after the terrorist attacks during his first year in of-fice. When California voters were asked if "generally speaking, do you believe that what President Bush tells the American people is true?" 48 percent of the state respondents said no, while about 42 percent said yes. The poll, conducted March 29 to April 2, was before Bush held what most observers felt was an unimpressive news conference from the White House when he failed, by most accounts, to even come close to re-

counts, to even come close to re-assuring the nation that the war in Iraq was going well.

Bush's April 13 televised prime time news conference was only the third of his presidency and it bethird of his presidency and it be-came, to me anyway, painfully ob-vious why he has so few of them. Bush managed to in the same statement say that "this was a tough week" but quickly assured reporters that "things are going well" in the war against terrorism. Excuse me? When asked why he and Vice President **Dick Cheney** needed to appear together before and Vice President DICK Uneney needed to appear together before the September 11 commission, he never answered, but quickly changed the subject. I think I know the answer to that one – either he needs Cheney with him to make sure his answers are convincing, or he doesn't know the answers, or the answers are so dis-turbing that he doesn't want us to

Meanwhile, Boxer's re-election is closely tied to the campaign of presumptive Democratic nominee Senator John Kerry (D-Massachusetts), and Bush's dropping poll numbers should mean good resum for the entire California Desembrate for t

news for the entire California De-mocratic ticket in November. Boxer's Republican opponent, former California Secretary of State **Bill Jones**, has reportedly raised less than \$2 million since declaring his candidacy last De-cember, and most of that was



Senator Barbara Boxer

spent on the primary, leaving him with only about \$200,000 on hand as of the end of March. Boxer, as of the end of March. Boxer, meanwhile, reports that her campaign has raised \$1.5 million since her last filing in February, bringing her current cash on hand to nearly \$6 million. To further complicate Jones's problem

lems, it is now re-ported that Bush campaign operatives are seriously thinking that California is too

Democratic, despite the popularity of GOP Gover-

nor Arnold Schwarzenegger,

nor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and plan to put on only a perfunctory campaign in the state. That's not good news for Jones.

But it is good news for Boxer, a tenacious campaigner. She took off the gloves last week and accused Bush of "taking his eye off the ball" in the fight against terrorism, saying that America is less safe now than before we attacked Iran Boxer said the Bush adminsafe now than before we attacked Iraq. Boxer said the Bush administration should have "focused like a laser beam" on **Osama bin Laden** and his network after the 9/11 attacks; instead, Bush used the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington as an excuse to take out **Saddam Hussein**, who had nothing to do with the 9/11 attacks and was fount to have no weapons of mass destruction that

attacks and was found to have no weapons of mass destruction that Bush declared Hussein was about to use in an "imminent attack."

"There were more al Qaeda operatives in our midst than in all of Iraq," said Boxer, who opposed the Senate resolution authorizing the use of force in Iraq and who was among a dozen senators who woted against Bush's \$87 billion request to pay for U.S. operations in Iraq. Boxer, whose campaign thus far has focused on jobs, education, healthcare, the environment, civil rights, and the adminment, civil rights, and the admin-istration's failed economic policy, has both Bush and Jones on the defense because of Bush's failing war in Iraq and she well knows it.

Politics and people

Congrats and best wishes to former Supervisor Leslie Katz, the newly-elected chair of the San Francisco Democratic Party; a good choice.

good choice.

And more than one politico tells me that Supervisor Matt Gonzalez is "all about" building the Green Party, but is he really considering a run as a Green Party write-in candidate for state Senate against Democrat Carole Migden (3rd District) in November? Why do I keep hearing that

it's a real possibility for the unpredictable Gonzalez?

Speaking of supervisors, **Chris Daly**, the supe with the shortest Speaking of supervisors, LPTIS Daly, the supe with the shortest fuse in the country, went off on yet another temper tantrum last week and blew up at some of his colleagues at a committee meeting over the question of grading the city's restaurants (A,B,C, etc.). At least one supe has been heard saying that "this is no longer a joking matter; isn't there possibly an anger management class out there we can find for this guy?"

Meanwhile, the honeymoon for Mayor Gavin Newsom continues with his approval rating shooting through the ceiling. Me? Heck, I admit to being a huge supporter of the guy, but even his biggest admirers know that reality (and politics) kick in big time around June 1 when the ill-fated budget, along with cuts in city services and layoffs become a certainty.

Both California LLS Senators

vices and layoffs become a certainty.

Both California U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein (D) and Barbara Boxer criticized President Bush last week over his having seemingly ignored intelligence reports prior to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, as well as his war on Iraq that is quickly turning into a Vietnam-type quagmire (the number of American soldiers killed in this insane war passed the 700 mark over the weekend).

Candidates are coming out of the woodwork for supervisor in District 5 to replace retiring Matt

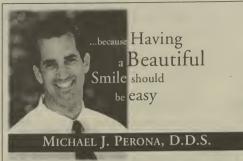
The woodwork for supervisor in District 5 to replace retiring Matt Gonzalez. Former Assistant District Attorney **Jim Hammer**'s friends tell me he is set to announce any day now, and Green

nounce any day now, and Green Party candidates galore are said to be ready to jump in as well. Bad luck Republicans: Sam Walls, a Fort Worth, Texas busi-nessman whose campaign for a seat in the state House of Repre-sentatives took a nosedive when a sentatives took a nosedive when a photo of him in drag appeared late in the campaign, was defeated last week in the GOP primary. Walls, 64, a former Johnson County (Forth Worth) Republican chairman and once a party favorite, had rejected pleas from GOP officials to abandon his can-GOP officials to abandon his candidacy, saying that his cross-dressing was "a small part of my personal past" and had been resolved to the satisfaction of his family. Fellow Republican **Rob Orr** won the primary 60 percent to 40 percent

And in Minnesota, a veteran GOP state lawmaker from the city of Rogers, who had questioned the extent of Nazi persecution of homosexuals during the Holocaust, failed to win his party's endorsement for re-election. Arlon Lindner, a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives for the past 12 years, complained that his inflammatory comments and sponsorship of a bill to strip gays of protection under the state's human rights law prompted a campaign to end his political career. And in Minnesota, a veteran

career.
My "Quote of the Week" comes
from Defense Secretary **Donald Rumsfeld**, at a recent Pentagon "We're trying to explain how things are going, and they are going as they are going. Some things are going well and some things are obviously not going well." (Uh, okay, now we get it, Mr. Secretary.)

And how was your week? ▼



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What were the first gay student groups?

by Liz Highleyman

April 19, 1967 (37 years ago this week): The Student Homophile League is officially recognized by Columbia University.

iven the freedom colleges often provide to escape the restrictions of families and hometowns, institutions of highre learning have long offered a natural opportunity for gay, les-bian, bisexual, and transgender young people to gather with oth-ers like themselves.

The earliest campus gay groups emerged in the late 1960s. The first such organization, the Student Homophile League at Columbia University, was founded by bisexual sophomore Stephen Donald-son (born Robert Martin). The group began meeting in the fall of 1966 and was officially chartered by the university on April 19, 1967.

Other SHL chapters soon formed at other colleges. Women's movement pioneer and Rubyfruit

many campuses, such as the one in Boston that evolved out of the political action committee of

political action community student league.
MIT's student league.
The earliest gay student groups
were often male-dominated. Lesbian activist and writer Karla Jay, then a student at Columbia's sisthen a student at Columbia's sister school, Barnard College, later recalled that she had considered joining the SHL, "but to me it had the off-putting air of a men's club." Consequently, lesbians began holding their own social events and starting their own student grayup. Citing rights feel. dent groups. Citing similar feelings of exclusion, bisexual and transgender students, in turn, formed their own organizations in the 1980s and 1990s.

Today, most universities have at least one LGBT student organization, and some have several (the University of California at Berkeley,

for example, has about a dozen). Since 1986, there has even been a national fraternity, Delta Lambda Phi, for "gay,

Past Out bisexual, and progressive gentlemen."

And with young people today coming out at ever-earlier ages,

student groups now exist at many high schools and even junior highs and middle schools. There are more than 2,000 gay-straight alliances nationwide, often started by students who were forced to go to court to win their right to gather and organize. ▼



Jungle author Rita Mae Brown

started a chapter at New York University the following year. In 1968, chapters were created at Stanford and Cornell. The latter was founded by Jearld Molden-

he had trouble finding the required five gay students to sign the group's charter. "It was easier to ask straight friends to sign as a

favor,' not to mention a hoot, than to convince a gay undergraduate that his entire career and future

that his entire career and future weren't teetering on the edge."
The SHL chapters comprised a national network, with Donaldson as chairman. But other early campus gay groups existed outside the network, including Homosexuals Intransigent at the City College of New York, the Boston University Homophile Committee, and Fight Repression of Erotic Expression (FREE) at the University of Minnesota.

The early student homophile

The early student homophile groups sponsored educational

events, provided support for stu-dents questioning their sexuality, and held events such as dances,

and held events such as dances, providing a safe place for students to socialize outside of bars.

According to historian Brett Beemyn, by 1971 there were gay student organizations at more than 175 colleges and universities. In those days, many such groups adopted a more radical stance than the actiler possible and the other than explicer possible and the stance.

than the earlier nonstudent ho-mophile organizations. Gay Liber-

ation Front chapters emerged on

hauer, who later opened Toronto's Glad Day bookstore, and the first faculty adviser was radical activist priest Daniel Berrigan. Stan Tillotson formed an SHL chapter at Mass-

achusetts Institute of

Technology in 1969. He later recalled that

Rita Mae Brown

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Suggested reading

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Donaldson, Stephen. 1995. "The Bisexual Movement's Beginnings in the '70s: A Personal Retrospective." In Bisexual Politics: Theories, Queries, and Visions, ed. Naomi S. Tucker, Liz Highleyman, and Rebecca Kaplan (Haworth).

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Illegal fare

by Jane Warner

ap, 1975 Market Street, April 17, 11:25 a.m.: A clerk no-ticed that a taxicab had parked illegally in front of the store. The driver came in and appeared to be shopping. A short time later, however, a police cruis-er pulled in behind the cab and the driver ran out and motioned to the officers that he was

moving. The clerk saw the cab drive on but soon it returned and again parked in front of the store. The clerk of the store. The clerk was distracted by an-other customer and lost sight of the cabbie, when sud-denly the security sensors sounded. The clerk looked

over and saw the cabbie run out with something in his hands. The suspect, described as a white male in his 40s, 5 feet 8 inches, weighing 120 pounds, got into a red, white, and green taxicab and drove east-bound on Market. Discovered missing were eight pairs of jeans valued at \$472.

Belt brandisher

18th and Sanchez streets, April 15, 2:30 a.m.: While walking east-bound on 18th near Sanchez, a man was suddenly "jumped" from behind by another man who put a belt around his neck. The suspect, who didn't say anything, held the belt tightly with one hand and with the other, rifled through the man's nockets. Fearing for his life. man's pockets. Fearing for his life,

the victim didn't fight back and allowed the suspect to take his cell phone and wallet, which con-tained \$40. After the thief took the man's possessions, he let go of the belt and ran away in an unknown direction. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, 5 feet 10 inches, weighing 180 pounds in his 30s.

Homophobic hitter

. Noe and 18th streets, April the and 18th streets, April
(s, 12:30 a.m.: Two men
who were walking near
7-Eleven walked past
another man who
yelled, "You faggots." What did you say?"
one of the men
asked, but the man e & didn't answer and kept walking. The men turned around and continued to walk away, but suddenly, **Punishment**

the suspect ran after them and punched one of the men in his face causing his nose to bleed. The assailant then ran toward Market Street. The second man, seeing his friend had been injured, chased after the suspect and called 911 on his cell phone. As they approached Market Street, the suspect sud-denly turned and threw a bottle at him, hitting him in the chest and ankle. The man continued to fol-low the suspect, informing the 911 dispatcher of their location. As they neared Tower Records on Market Street, a police officer ar-rived and arrested the suspect. The man, 25, was taken to Mission Station and booked for battery, assault with a deadly weapon with a

hate crime enhancement, and a parole violation

Cash advance

Bank of America Versatel, 11th and Market streets, April 10, 10 p.m.: A man and a woman ap-proached from behind a man withdrawing money from the ATM. "Put your card into the ma-chine, enter your pin number, and then back away," the man told him. The victim turned and saw his assailant was pointing a knife at him. Fearing for his life, the vic-tim complied, activated his card and then backed away. The suspect approached the ATM and withdrew an undisclosed amount of cash from the man's account. Before the thieves fled eastbound on 11th Street, the woman took the man's cell phone. Both suspects are described as African American. The man—described as 5 feet 9 inches, weighing 200 pounds, between 35 and 40 years old—wore a red jacket. His female accomplice – described as 5 feet 5 inches, 150 pounds – wore a black shirt underneath all red clothing. According to police, the man and woman are suspects in three similar ATM robberies in the Mission District, all of which happened on the same day. Anyone with information regarding these suspects is asked to call police at 553-1201.

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 559-9955.



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Sonoma supes support same-sex marriage

by Lois Pearlman

aying it is a matter of rights and not religion, Sonoma County supervisors Tues-day, April 20 approved a resolu-tion calling for the courts to "strike down any law that abridges the right of same-sex couples" to enter into civil mar-

"This is not a religious or moral issue for me," said Petaluma area Supervisor Mike Kerns. "It is purely an issue of fairness, justice, and equal treatment under the law."

The vote was 4-1, with only leaded was a conservitor Paul

Healdsburg area Supervisor Paul Kelley rejecting the proposal. Kelley is a member of a local funda-mentalist Christian church.

"In my opinion it's trying to water down the ancient and hon-orable institution of marriage,"

Kelley said early in the three-hour

Relley said early in the un-public hearing.

But the other supervisors said they had no trouble sending the state and federal governments a

message that they oppose a ban on same-sex marriages. "It's a very easy call for me," said Santa Rosa and Rohnert Park area Supervisor Tim Smith, idenarea supervisor min sinity, dentifying himself as a two-time Viet-nam veteran. "I wouldn't have been there [Vietnam] if I thought I was representing a country that had different standards for different people. Do I want to perpetuate what I think is a mistake?"

The other supervisors sup-porting the measure were Valerie Brown from Sonoma and Mike Reilly, supervisor for the sprawling west county, which includes Guerneville, Sebastopol, and the coast. Reilly had proposed the resolution in the face of President

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Gay prisoner

in our case made that clear. On the other hand, though, I believe that other hand, though, I believe that Kevin doesn't pose a threat to so-ciety and that he, like so many other lifers caught up in this polit-ical Catch-22 and have done their time, deserves to go home. I hope that Governor Schwarzenegger will have the fortitude to change this prison and parole system for the better and get California out of this unfortunate and expensive

Smith, also openly gay, suffers from AIDS, cancer, heart disease,

and Parkinson's disease. Former

and Parkinson's disease. Former Governor Gray Davis blocked Smith's parole but the courts overturned Davis's decision.

Leigh was among only about 3 percent of eligible prisoners whose paroles were approved by the Board of Prison Terms last was a Since taking office in No. year. Since taking office in November, Schwarzenegger has allowed for the release of 23 out of the 73 cases that the BPT sent to his desk for final review. Davis only allowed for the release of eight of the 294 cases that he re-viewed during the five years he was governor. Davis granted most of those releases during his last year in office.

Conference questions HIV prevention

by Matthew S. Bajko

alling into question federal health officials' new "Advancing HIV Prevention" initiative, the leader of the nation's largest AIDS advocacy group warned as long as national health policies focus solely on HIV-positive people, the nation will never be able to end the epidemic. "We blame people for getting infected. We don't have the discussion about the social behaviors behind why people get infected.

behind why people get infected. Instead they look at us as vectors and not as full people. We need to change that approach," said Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS, at the fourth and the AIDS and the Said Terje AIDS nual UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention conference

Invited to speak at the opening of the conference held Friday, April 16 in San Francisco, Anderson noted it was a year to the day since Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Department of Health and Human Services of-ficials announced the new tactics they would push for stemming the spread of HIV and AIDS. The new plan focuses primarily on testing and prevention methods for posi-tive people and their partners. Anderson questioned the logic behind promoting HIV testing to

alert people to their serostatus yet at the same time not funding healthcare programs for those

people.

"There is no plan to bring into care or treatment the thousands of people they say they want to know their status. It is not going to re-duce new infections," asserted Anderson, himself an HIV-positive gay man.

gay man.

He also warned the new initiative is a stealth way for conservatives to defund community groups such as the Stop AIDS Project, which has been the target of Republicans in Washington D.C. for years. While the CDC says it wants to promote prevention for positives, the Stop AIDS Project's own programs targeting positive men lost their funding last fall. If not for city funding, those pro-grams would have already been forced to shut down.

As Anderson pointed out, in the new AHP there is "no mention of anything that happens in the community, nothing that happens outside of a closed door medical

setting."
While he acknowledged knowing "your HIV status is real power.
We believe in that. We believe in prevention for positives," Anderson attacked the AHP because "it was designed in secret by burea crats with no consultation with people who are positive."
Federal health authorities were

not the only ones to face criticism at the conference, entitled "Broad-ening the HIV Prevention Land-scape." CAPS codirector Cynthia Gomez challenged the healthcare industry to put the resources needed behind efforts to find new

ways to fight HIV.

"Is anybody tired of the condom?" she asked the gathering of AIDS agency leaders, scientists,



NAPWA's Terje Anderson is critical of the new HIV prevention strategies.

We got a little mission drift. There is a lot of research going on that somehow forgot about some of those pieces," he said.

Too many times, Wheeler said,

researchers focus on pathology and miss opportunities to delve deeper into the reasons behind people's behavior. As an example, he pointed out that health officials

know 30 percent of African American men in some urban areas are

"But what do we know about the two-thirds of African Ameri-

the two-thirds of African Americans who aren't infected? What we do we know about those two-thirds and their partners who aren't infected?" Wheeler asked.

Arguing that prevention needs to address more than just the personal behaviors of HIV-positive people, he also warned "there is not going to be a silver bullet that gets us out of this epidemic. Stabilizing the community is not going to be about condom distribution."

bution."

Using the CDC's own numbers, Anderson questioned if the overall approach of focusing entirely on positive people was appropriate. According to the CDC, there are 900,000 positive people in the United States with 40,000 positive people.

m the Onted States With 40,000 new infections each year.

"That is good news," argued Anderson. "It means 95 percent of HIV-positive people are not trans-

Of the 700,000 people who know their status, they accounted

for only 16,000 transmissions of

mitting the virus

HIV-positive.

AIDS lobbyists, and outreach workers. "If we could come up with a new technology as successful as Viagra, certainly we can come up with something better than the condom. Let's push for new technologies." Darrell Wheeler, a Hunter Col-

lege School of Social Work profes-sor, who is black and gay, called on his colleagues to return to the be-ginning of the AIDS epidemic, when prevention did not answer to research but to the activism and advocacy efforts in the early 1980s.

"Let's go back to those origins.

ple unaware of their status, the CDC estimates they account for 24,000 transmissions, a 12 percent 24,000 transmissions, a 12 percent transmission rate.

As Anderson pointed out, "among people who know their status, there is a 2 percent transmission rate. What a testament to people who are HIV-positive."

Anderson said he fears the approaches being taken right now.

proaches being taken right now with prevention for positives will only stigmatize positive people at

only stigmatize positive people at the federal level.

"It immediately places blame on positive people's shoulders. What about the partners of peo-ple who are positive?" he asked. "People who are negative or of unknown status need to have re-sponsibility." sponsibility.

He also attacked the CDC for

He also attacked the CDC for not explaining how it intends to ensure that the people who are identified as being positive receive the healthcare they will need.

"Who will ensure they see a doctor once they are diagnosed? With growing ADAP waiting lists, flat funding proposals for Ryan White, and funding cuts at the state and local levels, where is the discussion where all these people we are going to identify eet medwe are going to identify get medical care?" he asked.

Questioning how new this lat-est HIV prevention effort truly is, Anderson said it reminds him of the AIDS health messages from 1985, when the CDC advised people to know your partner, avoid exchange of bodily fluids, and don't have sex with people who have AIDS.

"They are going back to this kind of crap. Rather than doing new strategies they are going back to the beginning of the epidemic,"

he said. What is needed, Anderson argued, is a redefinition of what prevention is in America, so that it includes healthcare, housing, sub-stance abuse, mental health, self-esteem, and domestic violence.

These are prevention sers," he said.

vices," he said.

In addition, Anderson said the
U.S. needs to develop a new vision
of a positive sexuality.

"We deal with assaults daily on
our sexuality. We need to construct a positive sexual life for
people who are positive," he said.
"We need to have a vision of a future of a life not just focused on
our HIV infection. I want young
people with HIV to know they can people with HIV to know they can grow up to be a senator or a business owner, and not just an HIV prevention outreach worker.'



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Confusing ruling on marriage in Oregon

by Bob Roehr

anning same-sex marriage is a violation of Article I, Sec-tion 20 of the Oregon Con-stitution that guarantees "equal privileges and immunities for all," according to a ruling Tuesday, April 20 by Multnomah County Circuit Judge Frank Bearden.

He declared that the 3,022 mar-riage licenses already issued to gay and lesbian couples were legally valid, but at the same time he or-

dered the county to suspend issuing new licenses to same-sex couples. Bearden gave the state Legisla-ture 90 days from the start of its next session to either adapt existing law to include gays or shape a Vermont-style civil union mea-sure that would afford those same rprivileges and immunities." If it does not do so, the county, which includes the city of Portland, may again begin to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

censes to same-sex couples.

"These are the first legally recognized gay marriages in the country," said David Fidanque, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon, which brought the suit on behalf of nine gay and lesbian couples.

"The court rightly recognized

"The court rightly recognized that same-sex couples are discriminated against by the state in marriage," Fidanque said. But he criticized the decision for leaving open the possibility of creating civil unions. "You can't use the law

to say one group of Americans is not as good as another."
"We are hopeful that Oregon will give same-sex couples equal access to marriage – and all the

rights it bestows," said Cheryl Jacques, president of the Human Rights Campaign.

Defense of Marriage Coalition attorney Kelly Clark was pleased with the decision because it moves gay marriage into the Legislature for "a reasoned, dignified public debate about these issues."

The Oregon Legislature is scheduled to meet in special session in June to deal with issues of tax reform, but it is unclear whether that session will take place or be canceled.

All parties in the case had an-

All parties in the case had anticipated from the outset that the case would be appealed on an expedited basis to the Oregon Supreme Court; the only question is whether it will bypass or go through an intermediary appeals

The hearing

The speed of the decision sur-prised many, who had anticipated a ruling by the end of the week, on

April 23.

Gay rights advocates and traditional marriage defenders had made their cases in the Portland courtroom only a few days earlier. on April 16.

Bearden said that summary

judgment motions generally are based upon the submitted briefs, in this case totaling 300 pages, and seldom is there an opportunity for oral arguments. He thought the case so unique and important, as is the need for "public awareness every step of the way," that he scheduled two hours of arguments for the parties to make their cases.

ACLU attorney Kenneth Y. Choe spoke on behalf of the gay and les-

said the 1998 lanner decision ruled that discrimination against same-sex couples was unconstitutional in terms of benefits for state employ-ees. Choe added, "The exclusion of same-sex couples from marriage also discriminates against individuals based on their gender. Whether an individual can marry his or her partner depends on whether he or she is male or female."

The state's attorney, Stephen K. Bushong, argued that there are different ways to achieve the benefits of marriage denied gay and lesbian couples, and the Legisla-ture is the proper place to deter-mine how and under what name access to those benefits might be

achieved.
Clark, representing social conservative groups, said that the framers of the Oregon Constitution never envisioned same-sex marriage in 1857 and that original intent should be honored. Marriage is for procreation, he asserted; "By definition, every heterosexual marriage – at least theoretically – has the biological capability of producing children." He urged the court not to engage in "a massive social experiment."
"Does that mean that every-

body who gets married and after five years doesn't have a child, they

hve years doesn't have a child, they are going to get their marriage li-cense revoked?" joked plaintiff Dr. Stephen Knox, during the hearing. Later in his rebuttal Choe said under current state law and policies, "all couples who bring children into their families are expressly afforded the same rights and benefits" regardless of whether they come through tradiand benefits" regardless of whether they come through tradi-

tional procreation, artificial means, or adoption. What the plaintiffs seek is a log-ical extension of coverage of basic rights that have been extended to women and minorities since the women and minorities since the Oregon Constitution was written. Choe said the separate but equal alternative that Bushong suggest-ed would not work.

Agnes Sowle, representing Multnomah County, said the county was only carrying out its administrative functions as required by the state constitution in issuing marriage licenses to same-

sex couples.

She lit into the state, charging, "It's obvious that the state is pri-marily interested in getting the county to stop issuing the mar-riage licenses. ... The state asks, re-ally, for no more than court-ordered discrimination. ... They are really asking for an injunction ... without proving all of the ele-ments that are required in Oregon to prove before an injunction is entitled to be issued."

Massachusetts

In Massachusetts, Governor Mitt Romney (R) is seeking emer-gency legal authority from the Legislature to ask the Supreme Ju-Legislature to ask the Supreme Judicial Court to delay its ruling on gay marriage until the process of amending the state Constitution to prohibit it plays out. Attorney General Tom Reilly, a Democrat, has refused to make such a petition. Few observers believe that the Legislature will act on Rom-

ney's request.
State officials are preparing the documentation and training for county clerks to begin issuing



Mass Governor Mitt Romney

marriage licenses to same-sex

couples on May 17.

An obscure law prevents out of state couples from marrying if the law of their home state prohibits such unions. It was passed in 1913 to limit interracial marriage. Reil-ly has said that clerks should abide

ly has said that clerks should abide by that archaic law, at least for the 38 states that have passed versions of a defense of marriage act. Some of the town clerks have said they won't go along with that. "It's not part of marriage law to challenge people," said Worcester city clerk David Rushford. "We don't ask for ID, we don't ask for birth certificates, divorce papers, or death certificates, and this is the practice throughout the Compractice throughout the Commonwealth."

"We've never been the mar-riage police with heterosexual couples and we're not about to start with same-sex couples," said Keith Bergman, town manager of Provincetown. A number of gay and lesbian couples have already booked their nuptials at the popular gay resort town.

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HRC

◆ page 1

roes are not there yet on gay mar-riage," said Jacques. "If we have an open door in the White House we are light years ahead of George

HRC national board member HRC national board member Scott Wiener, a local attorney and co-chair of the LGBT Community Center board, agreed the organization should fully support Kerry's campaign. While he said, "I don't agree with everything Kerry has done on gay marriage," nevertheless, "HRC should endorse Kerry." dorse Kerry.

In town to network, fundraise and meet with Mayor Gavin Newsom, whom she considers a hero, Jacques first met with 100 HRC members gathered at Citizen Cupcake, a new cafe and wine bar Cupcake, a new cafe and wine bar set to open this spring on the third floor of the Virgin Megastore on Market Street. The cafe will be operated by Elizabeth Falkner, the out lesbian owner of Citizen Cake in Hayes Valley.

On Monday, April 19, Jacques met with Newsom to thank him for being a hero to the LGBT community, as well as her twin sons, Timmy and Tommy, who turned 2 on April 5, she is raising with her partner, Jennifer Chrisler.

"I look at Gavin Newsom and

partner, Jennifer Chrisler.

"I look at Gavin Newsom and my kids and other people's kids will be studying about his leadership and others who have followed suit in this country in their social studies books," Jacques told the Bay Area Reporter during a 30-minute interview Saturday, April 17. "I intend to ask him to help educate other elected officials around this country and the public around this country" of the im-

portance of full marriage equality for same-sex couples. Jacques told the crowd earlier that night that it is essential gay rights advocates educate not only the country but the gay commu-nity about the difference between nity about the difference between

marriage and civil unions.

After HRC commissioned a poll of the LGBT community, Jacques said the organization was shocked to learn that "25 percent shocked to learn that "25 percent of our community thought you could already get married. The misinformation in our communi-ty is extraordinary."

Set aside differences

She also said the gay commu-nity needs to set aside its differ-ences with Kerry because LGBT Americans have more to lose if Bush wins another term as president. Citing the likelihood that the next president will appoint three people to lifetime terms on the U.S. Supreme Court, Jacques warned those justices could over-turn the groundbreaking decision

turn the groundbreaking decision of Lawrence v. Texas, which struck down the country's antigay sodomy laws, and Roe v. Wade, which legalized abortion.
"I think John Kerry will be a fabulous candidate and I hope I get a chance to work with him," said Jacques, a former Massachusetts state senator who resigned from office in January to lead from office in January to lead

Jacques, who is making \$225,000 a year in her new role, created a "marriage war room" at HRC's new headquarters in the capital, which she said runs "24 hours, seven days a week." Heading up the war room is Hilary Rosen, the partner of former HRC President Elizabeth Birch and the president Elizabeth Birch and the past CEO of the Recording Industry Association of America. Jacques asked Rosen, who retired from the RIAA in June 2003, to be the organization's lead strategist

the organization's lead strategist on the marriage issue.
Under Rosen's direction, HRC will soon launch what Jacques called CPC, the Campaign to Protect the Constitution. Its target: ensuring 34 senators do not sign on to the Federal Marriage Amendment, which would outlaw gay marriage in the United States Constitution.
With Republicans dominating the House of Representatives, the best chance of defeating the FMA is in the Senate. If the FMA were to be voted out of Congress, antigay activists only need 38 states to ratify it. As Jacques pointed out, "39 states already have a DOMA" or defense of marriage act that deor defense of marriage act that de-fines marriage as solely between a man and a woman.

man and a woman.

"The issuance on May 17 of marriage licenses in Massachusetts will ramp this up in the Senate. If this gets out of Congress this will move like wildfire," Jacques warned. In addition, she said Republicans are pushing for a vote before the Democratic convention in July.

"They want to put Kerry on

"They want to put Kerry on the spot," she said. "This is a real threat. It is all the senators are

threat. It is all the senators are talking about."

The CPC strategy is taking a two-pronged approach, first to recruit conservatives to denounce the FMA as an unwarranted attack on the Constitution and second to educate Americans about the federal DOMA, which protects states from having to recognize gay marriages performed in other states.

other states.

"We are reaching out to the most unlikely of allies like Bob Barr" the conservative Republican former congressman behind the federal DOMA. "We want to distribute the most to other the most to the drive home the message to other conservatives that a true conserv ative doesn't mess with the Constitution. That message is working," Jacques said. "Nobody knows there is a federal DOMA. When we tell them that they get annoyed or angry. We want them to get on the phone to tell their senator, 'Can you get off this already."

Uphill battle

It is by all accounts an uphill battle for gay rights groups. When asked if HRC had the 34 senators it needed to defeat the measure, Jacques declined to disclose how many votes it had locked up among the 48 Democrats, 51 Republicans, and one independent

in the Senate.

"We have a good number of "We have a good number of senators and congresspeople who want to be with us. I say it carefully like that because it doesn't mean they are with us." She said. "If the package, if the language changes at all, if something is put into it, a comma is changed, an 'I' is moved or whatever, we get into some very dangerous waters."

or whatever, we get into some very dangerous waters."

She credits such a scenario for passage of the antigay marriage amendment in Massachusetts. During the recent constitutional convention in that state, state law-makers approved outlawing gay marriage while allowing for civil unions.

The votes were there to stop a "The votes were there to stop a straight denial of marriage benefits, a DOMA, then they started tinkering with the language and the votes started dropping off. We have the exact same problem in Washington," warned Jacques. "And I am not going to tell you numbers only, I don't want to lay out our strategy for the other out our strategy for the other

Barred by state law from lob-Barred by state law from lob-bying her former colleagues in the Massachusetts Statehouse, some have criticized Jacques for leaving her state Senate seat to lead HRC. They contend she could have helped rally lawmakers there to defeat the antigay amendment. Asked if postponing her step-ping down would have made a difference, Jacques responded, "No, sadly. I hate to even have to admit that."

The amendment passed by five votes, Jacques pointed out, and after leading the fight two years ago against a constitutional amendment, she said her fellow lawmakers already "knew where I stood on this, they understood my reason and passion."

She instead places the blame on Republican Governor Mitt Romney, a Mormon who has worked tirelessly to see that the state does not marry any same-sex

state does not marry any same-sex couples.

"He got the most unlikely of people, even the sponsor of the DOMA constitutional amendment, to vote for this discriminatory compromise. He has a national agenda of running for president and to defeat gay marriage that goes well beyond Massachusetts," contended Jacques. "It is also important to know this is just setts, contended Jacques. "It is also important to know this is just one vote in Massachusetts. It is a disappointing vote but we live to fight another day. I believe a lot will change in a year as gay couples get married in Massachusetts."

Pointing to the slim margin by which the measure passed, Jacques believes when lawmakers vote on the measure a second time, the arguments will be different.

"There will be a whole other

"There will be a whole other conversation. It will not be a hypothetical anymore. It will be about breaking up loving, committed families. And then even if that vote happens, it has to go to the ballot, which is two years away. We are going to win this thing in Massachusetts," she said. ▼



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Son comes out, dad mouths off

by Bob Roehr

amiel Terry told his coming out story in the pages of the May issue of *Out* magazine. As the 24-year-old son of one of the most vocal and prominent antiabortion leaders who has now taken to crusading against homosexuality, it was not your typical

Randall Terry, the father, fired back in a column in the conserva-tive Washington Times, on April 13. And both Terrys had their say in separate interviews with the news editor of the religious/spiri-tual Web site www.beliefnet.com. Jamiel Terry said he knew he

was different from an early age and began fooling around with male friends when he was a teenager. But being the son of the man who had founded Operation Rescue – the group's goal is to shut down abortion clinics – was hardly conducive to admitting to or discussing being gay. Dad was not exactly prime material to start a PFLAG chapter. Still, Jamiel Terry loved and

Still, Jamiel Terry loved and adored his father, describing him in the article as "probably one of the most engaging men I have ever met." He worked with him trying to stop the enactment of civil unions in Vermont and protected Randall Terry's reputation when the acceptance of the second of the when the parents sought a divorce. The bond remains strong,



Jamiel Terry

even after coming out they still

speak regularly on the phone.
Randall Terry glowered with righteous indignation when he wrote in the Times, "Most painful to me as a dad is that my son prostituted my name for \$5,000; he sold out our family's princer for sold out our family's privacy for cold cash."

The son told beliefnet the payment was less. Originally, his story was to have been in the form of an interview and there would have been no payment, but it evolved into a freelance assignment to tell his tale in his own voice, for Out's standard fee

Jamiel Terry said he wrote it, not for the cash but "for my own journey, I felt I needed to come out. Most of our family friends

had no idea that I was gay, and most of my mother's side of the family didn't know."

"My son is their latest homo-sexual 'trophy,'" Randall Terry wrote in the *Times*. "What they aren't telling – and this grieves me to the core – is that his life is in aren't eming—and this gireves he to the core – is that his life is in shambles. He was recently arrested for DWI; he's writing bad checks on a closed bank account; he dropped out of school a year

ago; he doesn't have a job; he bounces from house to house ..." Jamiel Terry acknowledged having had some problems but minimized their extent. He passed up the opportunity to strike back at his father in the beliefnet inter-view, calling him "A phenomenal father. I could not have asked for a better father."

He explained his father's writ-ten vitriol as "doing it out of love. He's doing it because he feels that that's what he has to do to 'save me'. So I don't even hate him for

that but it just hurts me."
Randall Terry confirmed that in his interview. "If I love my son, in his interview. If Hove my son, I can't say to him, 'Hey, you're committing suicide on the installment plan. This is a great lifestyle." He trotted out long debunked rhetoric of the religious right, "The average death age of a male homosexual is 42 years old because of disease, because of sui-cide, because of alcoholism, be-cause of drugs, because of vio-lence."

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Gav marriage bill

ing financial situation. The legisla-

tion would allow same-sex couples to file joint tax returns and could mean a hit to the state's treasury.

mean a hit to the state's treasury.
With the bill up for a vote during an election year, electoral politics will also come into play as the
Democratic-controlled Legislature debates the bill. Several Democratic members of the Legislature including Assemblymen Leg. inocratch members of the Legisla-ture, including Assemblymen Le-land Yee (D-San Francisco) and Joe Nation (D-San Rafael) – coau-thors of the marriage bill – have said the issue could hurt Democ-

rats up for re-election.

One indication of the politick ing behind the marriage bill: it was not officially assigned from the Rules Committee to the Judiciary Committee for a hearing until last Thursday, only five days prior to being heard and just days before a deadline for the legislation to be voted on by lawmakers As concern grew that the bill would die in the Rules Commitwould die in the Rules Commit-tee, gay rights supporters flooded the offices of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez (D-Los Angeles) and Rules Committee Chair Cindy Montanez (D-San Fernando), a coauthor of the bill, with phone calls and e-mails.

In a preemptive strike against antigay activists who mobilized antigay activists who mobilized supporters to oppose the bill Tuesday, ministers, priests, and other people of faith supportive of gay marriage swarmed the State-house Monday, meeting with leg-islators and holding a news con-ference to push for equal marriage rights for same-sex couples.

Clergy from such denomina-tions as Disciples of Christ, Lutheran, Presbyterian, United

Methodists and the United Church of Christ have all en-dorsed the measure. The board of directors of the Northern Califor-nia/Nevada Conference of the-United Church of Christ has also

endorsed the bill.

Numerous cities have also passed resolutions either endors-ing the measure or supporting gay marriage, including Los Angeles, Oakland, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, and West Hollywood.

In recent days supporters have targeted members of the Judiciary Committee with calls to pass the bill, particularly committee the bill, particularly committee chair Assemblywoman Ellen Cor-bett (D-San Leandro), the focus of a Marriage Equality Action Alert sent out late Monday. The Lamb-da Letters Project, a statewide gay bobbying group, estimated its members sent 11,000 letters and e-mails to Assembly members. Voting in favor of the bill, Cor-bett said, "I think it is important

bett said, I think it is important to note that we as the Legislature have the ability to make the laws, and in fact I do believe that it is definitely within our jurisdiction to define what is marriage."

Assemblywoman Patricia Bates (R-Laguna Niguel), who voted against the measure, disagreed. Instead she argued that the courts should decide the issue of same-

sex marriage before it is taken up by the Legislature. The San Francisco Superior Court and the state Supreme Court Court and the state Supreme Court will hear arguments in gay marriage lawsuits this summer. The cases stem from Mayor Gavin Newsom's decision to begin marrying gay and lesbian couples on February 12. After more than 4,000 same-sex couples wed, antigay groups and state Attorney General groups and state Attorney General Bill Lockyer were successful in ob-taining stays against further mar-riage licenses being issued until the courts decide on the matter.

courts decide on the matter.

It is unclear how a pro-gay marriage ruling by either judicial body would impact the way law-makers vote on the bill, though if gay lawmakers and lobbying groups can muster support for the bill and pass it out of the Legisla-

ture, there is a likelihood it could

ture, there is a likelihood it could become law.

During a March appearance on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Republican Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, long described as being gay-friendly, indicated that gay marriage would be "fine with me" if voters or the courts changed exter law to nermit the unions. state law to permit the unions

state law to permit the unions.
However, Schwarzenegger has yet to take a stand on the legislation, and during the recall campaign, aides indicated he would not have signed AB205.
Gay rights activists argue momentum is on their side and point to the recent news that state Senator Pete Kinght (R.Palpadale) the

to the recent news that state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palmdale), the Legislature's most vocal opponent to gay rights, would not work to block passage of the marriage bill. In a meeting with EQCA and in remarks to a reporter, Knight acknowledged there wasn't much he could do to stop Leno's bill if Democrats support it. ▼



Dean Backus and Jonathan Thalberg

On February 17, Dean Backus and Jonathan Thalberg were legally married at San Francisco City Hall, one-half block from the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, where they met 10 years prior. Their witnesses were Theo Olson and Dio Dandoy.

Mr. Backus is a Bay Area author and playwright whose works have appeared at Theater Rhinoceros, Josie's, the New Conservatory, the Shelton, the Exit, and the Alcazar, among other venues. He is currently employed by the Santa Clara County Department of Education.

Mr. Thalberg holds a master's degree in business administration, and is currently the owner and proprietor of It's Delicious, a gourmet gift store in Sunnyvale.

Delicious, a gourmet gift store in Sunny vale.

The reception brunch was held at Zuni Cafe, where champagne and garlic fries were enjoyed by all. Their second honeymoon is to be determined at a fu-ture date.



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George Paiva, age 57, passed away at Stanford Hospi-tal in Palo Alto on April 15, 2004 after a long battle with liver cancer and cir-rhosis complicated by HIV. A native of

oby RIV. A hattee of Arica, Chile, George migrated to the USA at age 23, first living in Miami, then the Upper West Side of New York City. In 1977, he moved to Redwood City where he was employed at Cafe Express in Burlingame and then as chef and cook at the Senior Day Care Center in Palo Alto until his illness forced him to retire in July, 1998. He became a US citizen in 1997. He had previously been a friend of Calvary Metropolitan Community Church in Redwood City, and for many years prepared their traditional Easter breakfast.

Although socially reserved, George had compassion for all, especially the

disadvantaged. He loved to cook, but

disadvantaged. He loved to cook, but Chilean Empanadas were his favorite food. He enjoyed the Redwood City Farmers Market, gardening, fashion design, travel, and musical theater. Just days before his last hospitalization he had returned from a very enjoyable theater trip to New York City.

During his illness he was cared for by an incredible team of caring individuals at Stanford Positive Care Clinic and Stanford Clinics and Hospital staff. If he were able to, he would want to thank Carol and all the others at Long's/Broadway Drug Store, Redwood City, for making him feel so welcome there.

He is survived by his Aunt Aida ("Mother"), step-sister Anna, and niece Elke in Arica, Chile. He will be sorely missed by his cats, Jose and Leo, and his partner of 24 years, Lindsy McLean. Details concerning a celebration of his life will be announced at a later date.

Patricia Catherine Winger

It is with great sadness that we share the unexpected passing of a very special



friend. Patricia
Catherine Winger,
48, was born in
Houston, Texas. She
is survived by her
stepfamily — Merrill, Francis, and
Dean — as well as
many loving
friends. Pat had
been a resident of
San Francisco for over 20 years. She was
known for her amazing talents in mosaic art and her abundant heart of compassion, as well as her silly sense of
humor.

passion, as weat as it say selice.

A celebration of her life will be held at noon on May 1, 2004 in the National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park, where she had one of her best final days with her loving best friend, Paula Shiels Finn. After the memorial service there will be a party for her at Skip's Tavern at 453 Cortland Ave., as well as the Wild Side West, right across the street. For more information, please contact goingfurtherworks@yahoo.com. "All the arts we practice are apprenticeship. The big art is our life." — M.C. Richards

Roberta "Bobbi" Dunne 1945-2003

Friends of Bobbi Dunne will gather in her memory at the west (ocean side) entrance to the Beach Chalet Restaurant and Visitor's Center at 1pm on Saturday, May 8, 2004. The Beach Chalet (www.beachchalet.com) is located at the west end of Golden Gate Park. For further details, please call Jim at (415) 269-5707.

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Center

laboration with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor's Office of Community Development, and the Golden Gate Business Association. He will receive \$80,000 a year in his new

Executive Director Thom Lynch said that Stram's duties will include developing opportunities for LGBT owned businesses, including small business loans and technical expertise. He will also spearhead the center's outreach to financial institutions to support this 'first in the nation' program geared to the queer community.

Lynch said he expects Stram to begin working on loan packages within 60 days and hopes to see about 10 loans completed within Executive Director Thom

about 10 loans completed within the next six months.

"One of the goals of this program is to create jobs in the community, so we are going to look at the number of jobs that are created the number of jobs that are created the program of the core residences." ed," as one measure of success, said

Lynch. "Now the goals will be modest. How many jobs, I don't know yet. I would expect to see it go up very quickly probably after a year." In announcing Stram's hiring, Lynch said, "This is a vital program for our community. We must do everything we can to build a vibrant financial foundation for all of our members so that we can ensure our members so that we can ensure our city's identity as a wonderful place to create a life for members of bace to create a life for members of the LGBT community. People must be able to have a place to live, have jobs, and build for their future." Lynch added, "Ken is an ideal person to lead this innovative pro-

The program came to the cen ter through working with openly gay Supervisor Bevan Dufty and the Mayor's Office of Community

the Mayor's Office of Community
Development. Dufty hailed
Stram's selection as a great choice.

"His background with the U.S.
Small Business Administration as
well as our own GGBA demonstrates Ken's breadth of experience
and skills. This NEDO will be a wonderful catalyst for positive change, economic empowerment,

and opportunity. I look forward to working with Ken and Thom," said Dufty.

said Dufty.

The program is the first Neighborhood Economic Development Organization to focus on the needs of the LGBT community. The program has already produced a successful job fair and a series of seminars, including an upcoming Wells Fargo wealth building series.

upcoming Wells Fargo wealth building series.
Center staff will work with a team of advisers on the development of additional programs. Stram said anyone interested in securing a loan for a new business or interested in homebuying programs should contact him via e-mail at kens@fcenter.org.

grams should contact him via e-mail at kens@sfcenter.org.
"There is no reason to turn people away, though I might not have a clear answer right away," said Stram, who emphasized, "The money is not here. We are the bridge. That will be a big part of my role – to help people understand what San Francisco offers. There are a whole lot of resources but finding them is a real chalbut finding them is a real challenge at times." \blacksquare

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Sonoma

◄ page 11

Bush's call to pass a constitutional amendment limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples.

to opposite-sex couples.

Although the four supervisors had already announced their intention to support the resolution, the chambers were jammed Tuesday morning with audience members who came to offer their opinions on the issue. More than 50 people speak with more than 150

people spoke, with more than half of them opposing the resolution. Linda Fortunati, who identi-fied herself as a 36-year-old who has lived in Santa Rosa all her life,

defended heterosexual marriage as the only legitimate union. "Homosexuality is wrong and it's a destructive lifestyle," she said. "Anything counterfeit hurts

Many of the speakers on both sides of the issue were religious leaders. Several pastors and the rabbi of a local reform congregarabbi of a local felorin congrega-tion said there was nothing in their religions to prevent same-sex couples from enjoying the same rights as heterosexual cou-

same rights as heterosexual couples.

"There are other religious
voices. Homosexuality is a minor
biblical issue," said the Reverend
Gene Nelson of the Sebastopol
Community Church. "Jesus got in
trouble all the time for his inclusiveness. The idea that people
would exclude others in Jesus's
name blows me away."

Rabbi George Gittleman of
Congregation Shomrei Tørah
agreed.

"I am married with two children," Gittleman said. "Frankly, I look forward to the day when the government is out of the marriage business completely. Nothing excludes gay and lesbian couples from the blessing of marriage. In America, what right does the government have to interpret scripture into law?"

Robert Hernandez, pastor of Potter House Church in Santa Rosa, disagreed.

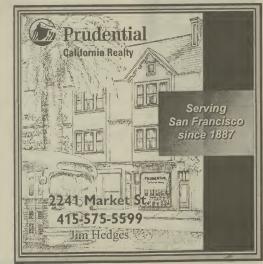
"This is a moral issue. It is

"This is a moral issue. It is clearly condemned in scripture as an abominable lifestyle. It [the resolution] is an arrogant as sumption this council [the super visors | would make," he said.

Representatives from most of Representatives from most of Sonoma County's state and feder-al elected officials read letters sup-porting the resolution. Openly lesbian Sebastopol Mayor Linda Kelly said her city council unani-mously approved a similar reso-lution in March. State Senator John Burton (D-

San Francisco), who represents southern Sonoma County as well as Marin and San Francisco, sent as Marin and San Francisco, sent a letter pointing out that he had introduced a bill supporting same-sex marriage several years ago, and it was defeated.

"I don't know what the big deal was then, and I don't know what it is now," his letter read.



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Iced

by Jim Provenzano

are we step on the treacher-ous ice floes of media deception, the gay and not-gay ru-mors, and innuendo?

Dare we read between the cracks in the case of the hockey player's alleged murder-for-hire plot and subsequent arrest? Dare we crack the icy wall of decep-tion from U.S. media, to see the other side from gay and foreign sources? We dare. St. Louis Blues for

Sports Complex ward Mike Danton is in a San Jose jail, facing charges in a murder-for-hire plot. Specula-tion raged that he wanted to silence a friend who threatened to publicly expose him as a homosexual.

expose nim as a nomosexual.

There, the old school word, used
by the New York Daily News. Homo
Hockey Hit Hoopla; my words.

"This has nothing to do with a
gay lover or his relationship with

any female," Dave Frost, Danton's agent, told the *Daily News.* "We're going to get him some help, some treatment. He's had some issues from his younger years that he needs to deal with."

Frosty seems to know more about Danton, but less about the

at Danton, but less about the legal system. Changing his name from Mike Jefferson to Danton in 2002 may have been an unusual PR move. Possibly spending time in prison will no doubt end his sticking and pucking, so to speak.

Danton and 19-

Danton and 19year-old Katie
Wolfmeyer allegedly
tried to hire someone
to kill an unnamed "acquain-

tance" of the hockey player after the man threatened to ruin Danton's career by telling Blues' man-agement about his "promiscuity and use of alcohol."

The complaint also said Danton felt the man was planning to



Mike Danton in his Devil days

"leave Danton." In what's been described as a sobbing confession recording, Danton decided to have him killed instead.

have him killed instead.

"None of those things have anything to do with this," Frost said. "Once this story comes out, people are going to realize it's a simple thing. Psychologically, Mike's not where he needs to be. He's in a state of depression. He's in a state of paranoia. There was no fear of [Blues general manager] Larry Pleau. No fear of a gay lover."

Fear of a gay lover.

Just think about that. Sports

PALM SPRINGS

writers, agents, the NHL, and othwriters, agents, the NHL, and others seem more comfortable dealing with a potential murder conspirator than a gay murder conspirator. "A simple thing."

Danton's agent, in a last-ditch effort to save whatever shreds of his client's career, claims that Danton's client's career, claims that Danton's

clients career, claims that Dantons okay, just, well, insane. But not gay. The "acquaintance" has been identified as Danton's roommate, boyfriend, and father in different

media sources.
So, is this really a gay story? Is
"the acquaintance" his lover or his
father? If he is his lover, why did
he identify himself as Danton's father? If he is Danton's father, why did Reuters identify him as Danton's lover?

Gay media claims he's gay, not that we should claim him, but that we should claim him, but simply that they think the straight corporate media is closeting an athlete, as if being gay is still worse than being a killer. Bernie Miklasz of the St. Louis

Bernie Miklasz of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch conjectured that "Because of the FBI's cryptic wording in its affidavit on the Danton case, there was premature speculation about the nature of Danton's relationship with the male 'acquaintance' – the intended target of the alleged murder scheme. Some media outlets, including those that serve the eav scheme. Some media outlets, including those that serve the gay community, immediately and perhaps falsely assumed Danton was involved in a homosexual relationship. And multiple sources have told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch that it isn't true."

On Tuesday, three St. Louis media outlets named Frost as the man Danton wanted killed.

man Danton wanted killed.

Actually, it's more than those that "serve the gays" who are spinning this tawdry tale lavender. What's interesting is the amount of straight sports writers claiming unnamed sources proving his heterosexuality.

You're bennings of the Home.

erosexuality.

Kevin Jennings of the Homophobia in Sports project, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, and a member of New York City's gay hockey squads, says the Danton case is about homophobia.

"We are disturbed about a sporting culture in which young athletes are nurtured to believe murder is an option more attraction."

murder is an option more attrac-tive than being known as gay," said Jennings. "The example this sets for young American athletes, straight or gay, is devastating and only perpetuates this professional culture of hate."

only perpetuates this professional culture of hate."

"The fact that Mike Danton felt it was better to have someone murdered rather than be known as gay is a stunning statement about the depth of the homophobia that exists in professional hockey and other sports," said Jeff Kagan, International Gay and Lesbian Ice Hockey Association commissioner.
"We are disappointed by the failure of the NHL to address the underlying bigotry that has created the climate of fear in which Mike Danton lived and which drove him to such a desperate act.
"Based on the experiences of many of our players, Mike Danton had good reason to fear how his teammates and coaches might react if they were to find out that had a carpeacy nature."

react if they were to find out that he had a same-sex partner," con-tinued Kagan. "We call upon [NHL Commissioner] Gary Bettman to take meaningful action now to eradicate the bigotry that pervades the league and its locker rooms." But is it so bad? Teammates of

Danton's, center Doug Weight and defenseman Chris Pronger, were interviewed by the *Post-Dispatch*. Weight and Pronger said they'd support any teammate regardless

support any teanmate regardless of sexual orientation, as long as he was a good player.

"Let's preface it by saying who knows what the situation is," Weight said. "There's rumors of what went on and who exactly was involved with this so-called thing. involved with this so-called thing. Let's not jump to conclusions, but you know what, hypothetically I think it would be fine. I'd like to think people are bigger than that and look into the person as a per-son and as a teammate."

Pronger said: "A lot would de-

Pronger said: "A lot would depend on the guy. And what kind of guy he was. If he was liked by his teammates. A lot of it would have to do with his character, more than anything. I wouldn't have a problem with it. If that's the way he wants to live his life, that's the way he should live his life. Everybody has a private life outside the locker room."

Twice the New Jersey Devils.

Twice the New Jersey Devils, who eventually traded him to St. Louis last June, suspended Dan-ton. He had seven goals, 12 points and 141 penalty minutes in 68 games this season with the Blues.

Danton's erratic behavior is

well documented, on and off the ice. Emotional problems, a strange ice. Emotional problems, a strange name change to distance himself from his family. What torturous secret is Danton hiding? Did his "acquaintance" try to prevent the desperate corner Danton found himself in, working a deal with a teenage girl in a scene out of a B

If so, this may be the loudest intervention heard round the

intervention heard round the world.

Is Danton's "promiscuity" of a gay nature? By its very ambiguity, gaining more attention than the attempted murder, it's showing all the signs to even those with the lowest level of gaydar.

Will we find out more in the tabloids? Will it be our weekly scandalous distraction from mur-

scandalous distraction from mur-ders taking place in Iraq? Probably. Will we still care?

Perhaps.
Let's just watch the little Devil melt down and see what floats up.

With a splash

In cheerier news, Britain's Prince William made his water polo debut for the Scottish na-tional university squad in the an-nual Celtic Nations Tournament

nual Celtic Nations Tournament against Wales and Ireland in Cardiff, Wales, last Saturday. Tabloid readers across the pond (on the Net) got a gaggle of great Speedo pics of his royal hunkness. You can see lots of out gay and lesbian water polo players next weekend at Tsunami Polo's Tsunami de Mayo tournament and party. Bring May in with a splash as teams from San Diego, West Hollywood, Washington, D.C., and New York compete for the second annual Tsunami de Mayo cup. Go see wet gay jocks! Get dicup. Go see wet gay jocks! Get directions, buy tickets to the benefit party, at www.tsunamipolo.org.

Get a leg up

In local news no less regal, Tri-angle Taekwon Do is holding its annual kick-a-thon this Saturday, April 24 at 9 a.m. in San Francis-co's Dolores Park. The members have been collecting sponsor pledges, and in order to earn the pledges they must perform 1,000 kicks in an hour (or 17 kicks per minute). This effort benefits both minute). This effort benefits both June PrideFest and the LGBT Community Center. For more info, contact (415) 495-1888 or info@triangletkd.org, or visit them on the Web at www. trian-gletkd.org. ▼





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LEGAL NOTICES

REQUEST FOR BIDS -Solicitation No. 04-620-1FB-008
The San Francisco Housing Authority will receive sealed bids for the HEATING AND DOMESTIC HOT WATER BOILERS REPLACEMENT at CAL 1-31, 25 SANCHEZ STREET located in San Francisco. The Estimated Construction Cost ts more than \$200.000.

Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, are on file at the San Francisco housing Authority's Office located at 1815 Egbert Avenue, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, and will be available for impection or issuance on or after April 5, 2004.

A processing fee of \$50.00 (non-refundable) will be required for each set of documents. All payments must be in the form of CERTFIED CHECK, CASHIERIS CHECK, or COMPANY CHECK Payable to the SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY CASH OR PERSONAL CHECK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

On Tizesday April 20, 2004, at 1000 a.m., prospective bidders will meet at the entrance of 25 Sanches Street in San Francisco. A pre bid conference will follow the site inspection to discuss any questions relating to this work. All bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. (957) and read aloud on the date of May 5, 2004.

Questions regarding this solicitation for bids may be directed to Basil Nicolaou, Senior Project Manager, at (415) 715-5942.

Consultant - Property and Business Improvement Districts.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Consultant - Property and Business Improvement District (PBID) in the Western Addition, San Francisco Redevelopment is seeking Statements of Qualifications from experienced property and business improvement District (PBID) in the Western Addition Redevelopment Project Area A-2.

Pre-submittal meeting for prospective consultants: 10:00 a.m., Friday, May 7, 2004, at the Fillmore Jazz District Promotions Office located at 1286 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) contact:

Pre-submittal meeting for prospective consultants: 10:00 a.m., Friday, May 7, 2004, at the Fillmore Jazz District Promotions Office located at 1286 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: A-0269342-00
The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as King's Cafe. Located at: 1338 Polk St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business was conducted by an individual signed Tony Chi-Man Yu. The fictitious name referred to above was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on: 08/21/03.

08/21/03. APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004 STATEMENT FILE A-0274720-00

23-04. APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0274696-00

STATEMENT FILE A-0274696-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Level 3, 580 California Street, 16th Floor, San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Wolf Sterling. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-23-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-23-04.

STATEMENT FILE A-0274780-00

be directed to 415-252-3100.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SONOMA ONDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS (MARRIAGE)
CASE NUMBER: 231-74
Regarding the Marriage of Sandy La Chanthay, petitioner and Xie Rizhen, respondent. IT IS ORDERED that the service of said summons or citation in this action be made upon respondent, Xie Rizhen, ty publication therein in The Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation published at San Francisco County, California, hereby designated as the newpaper most likely to give notice to said defendant; that said publication be made at least once a week for four successive weeks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of said summons or citation and of said composition of the summons or citation and of said composition in this action be forthwith depositied in the United States Post Office, post-paid, directed to said defendant, respondent, or citee if his address is ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for the publication of this summons or citation and a declaration of this summons or citation and of this maling or of the fact that the address was not ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for the publication. Dated March 15, 2004. Armold D. Resenfeld, Judgel*Commissioner of Superior Court. Superior Court of the State of California, County of Sonoma APR 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

County of Sonoma APR 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275017-00 SIATEMENT FILE A-0275017-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Sustainability Solutions 43 Russell St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Scott Edmondson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business mame or names on 04-02-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-02-04.

APR 8, 15, 22 29 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275042-00 STATEMENT FILE A-0275042-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: CCS Construction Coordination 230
California St., Ste. 508 San Francisco, Ca. 94111. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Marek Slosar. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-0-04. APR 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

rancisco, Ca. on 03-25-04. APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004 STATEMENT FILE A-0274867-00 THE MENT FILE A-02/486/-J01
The following person(s) are doing business as: Context 250 Fell St. #54 San Francis or, Ca. 940.2. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Jimmy Kansau. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 02-90-4. The statement was filed with the City and Country of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-29-04.

03-29-04. APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

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Furnished Rooms from \$160 wk. Gay managed. 1544 Polk. Call Kent 928-3353.

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE A-0275114-00 STATEMENT FILE A-0275114-00
The following person(s) are doing business
as: Mr. E's Custom Design 1592 Union St.
#254 San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed
Erin Baker. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-0604. The statement was filed with the City
and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0406-04 06-04. APR. 15, 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275231-00 THE MENT FILE A-UZ/5231-UU
The following person(s) are doing business
as: The Gallery Lounge on Brannan 51.0
Brannan St. San Francisco, Ca. 94107.
This business is conducted by a corporation
signed Timothy Mark Landregan. The regis-trant(s) commenced to transact business
under the above listed fictitious business
name or names on n/a. The statement was
filled with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-09-04. APR. 15. 22. 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275246-00

STATEMENT FILE A-02/5246-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Tech4nets 2230 Ballboa St. San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Rick Nguy. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-12-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-12-04. APR 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME. FILE NO: A-0269654-00
The following person(s) have abandoned
the use of the fictitious business name
known as: Gazza Restaurant. Located at:
637 Larkin St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109.
This business was conducted by an individual signed Norman No. The fictitious name
referred to above was filled with the City and
County of San Francisco, Ca. on:
09/04/03.

09/04/03. APR. 15, 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0274524-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Pink Kat Productions, 4096 17th St. #204 San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kathleen Amendola. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-16-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-16-04. O3-16-04.
APR. 15, 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0274569-00 STATEMENT FILE A-0274569-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: AK Meats 2346 Clement Street San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by a limited liability partnership signed Spiros Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-17-04 on 03-17-04. APR. 15, 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0274900-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Picnic 1808 Pold St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jasmine Tan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-30-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-30-04.
APR. 15, 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275269-00 STATEMENT FILE A-UZ/2569-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Natalie's Gallery 145 Jefferson Street, Ste. 700 San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a corporation omenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-04-09. APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 04-541252

In the Matter of the Application of Kristy Ann Kosach for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Kristy Ann Kosach has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Kristy Ann Wellen. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 25th day of May 41; 900 am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. name should not be granted. APR. 15, 22, 29 May 6 2004

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE A-0275251-00 STATEMENT IF ILE A-02/3251-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Masks by Kai 470 Fillmore St. #1
San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Larry W. Stiffler. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-12-04.

APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 20004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275322-00 STATEMENT IF ILE A-02/3322-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Reach Your Audience 69 Central Ave.
San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Julien
Signes. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-15-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-15-04.

15-04. APR. 15, 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275094-00 STATEMENT FILE A-0275094-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Master Kitchen Cabinet 1250 Pennsylvania St. San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an Individual signed Rui Hua Lei. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-06-04. 06-04. APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILLFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 04-541288 In the Matter of the Application of Calvinn Shih for change of name, he application of Calvinn Shih for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Calvinn Shih has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Calvinn S. Wang, Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 24th day of June at 3-00 am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be greated. APR. 15, 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275296-00 STATLEMENT IT ILE A-02/32/9-0-U
The following person(s) are doing business as: LT Imports 253 Central Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 9411.7. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Hector I Tuesta. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on na. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-18-04.

18-04. APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 20004

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 04-541.181. In the Matter of the Application of Scott Michael Nelson for Change of Name. The application of Scott Michael Nelson for Change of name, thaving been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Scott Michael Nelson has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Scott Michael Nelson windles. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 17th day of June at 9 'Oolom of Said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 20004

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
To whom it may concern: The Name of the
Applicant(s) is/are M & M Group Assets
Inc., The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 185 Berry Street, Suite
#5500 San Francisco, Ca 94107, to sell
alcoholic beverages at 510 Brannan St.
San Francisco, Ca 94107, Type of License
applied for:
48 - ON-SALE GENERAL PUBLIC
PREMISES
APR 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SELL ALCOHOLLC BEVERAGES
To whom it may concern: The Name of the
Applicant(s) is/are Fizzees LLC The appliccants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at
185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at 3954 Geary Blvd. San Francisco,
Ca 94118. Type of License applied for:
48 - ON-SALE GENERAL PUBLIC
PREMISES
APR 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

SELL ALCOHOLLIC BEVERAGES
To whom it may concern: The Name of the
Applicant(s) Is/are Brickhouse Cafe LLC
The applicants Islsed above are applying to
the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San
Francisco, Ca 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at 426 Brannan St. San Francisco,
Ca 94107. Type of License applied for:
47 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING
PLACE
APR 22, 29 MAY 6 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275344-00 STATEMENT IT ILE A-UZ/3344-U0
The following person(s) are doing business as: Kasparian Realty & Insurance 2025
Taraval Street San Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Varant Kasparian. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-01-91. The statement was filled with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-16-04. cisco, Ca. on 04-16-04. APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

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STATEMENT FILE A-0275217-00 STATEMENT HILE A-02/2217-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: McGuire Mortgage 2001 Lombard St. San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a joint venture signed James R. Panepinto. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-09-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-09-04. 04-09-04. APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0274909-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Thai Angel Cusine 1968 Lombard St. San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an includibudial signed Cymtha Wong. The registrant(s) commenced to the Wong. The registrant of the Cymtha Cy

30-04. APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0275370-00
The following person(s) are driven STATEMENT FILE A-02/33/0-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bangkok Noodles & Thai B.B.Q. 110
Powell St. San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Somnuk Loui. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04.19-04. he City and County of San Francisco on 04-19-04. APR. 22, 29 MAY 6, 13 2004

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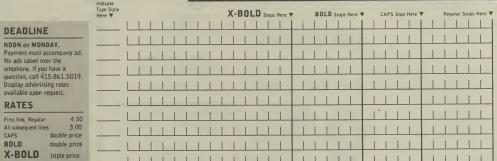
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PATIENT INFORMATION SUSTIVA® (sus-TEE-vah)

[efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)] capsules and tablets

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with SUSTIVA.

Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH SUSTIVA."

Read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz). Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. This leaflet provides a summary about SUSTIVA and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information is not meant to take the place of talking with your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

What is SUSTIVA?
SUSTIVA is a medicine used in combination with other medicines to help treat infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of anti-HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (MNRTI). SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (viral load). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines. SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells, a type of immune cell in blood. SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.
SUSTIVA does not cure HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections and complications. Therefore, it is very important that you stay under the care of your doctor. SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Therefore, continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

HIV to others. Therefore, continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Serious psychiatric problems. A small number of patients experience severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior while taking SUSTIVA. Some patients have thoughts of suicide and a few have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients who have had mental illness. Contact your doctor right away if you think you are having these psychiatric symptoms, so your doctor can decide if you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Common side effects. Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, difowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams during treatment with SUSTIVA. These side effects may be reduced if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime on an empty stomach. They also fend tog oaway after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these common side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have serious psychiatric problems, such as severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Tell your doctor right away if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. It is possible that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. If you are drize, have trouble concentrating, or are drowsy, avoid activities that may be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery.

Rash is common. Rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor right away. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea.

niting, and diarrhea.

when committee the control to the co

How should I take SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

- How should I take SUSTIVA (etavirenz)?

 You should take SUSTIVA on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime.

 Swallow SUSTIVA with water.

 Taking SUSTIVA with food increases the amount of medicine in your body, which may increase the frequency of side effects.

- Taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz) at bedtime may make some side

- Taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz) at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome. SUSTIVA must be taken in combination with other anti-HIV medicines. If you take only SUSTIVA, the medicine may stop working.

 Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away, unless it is almost time for your next dose. Do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

 Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.

 If you believe you took more than the prescribed amount of SUSTIVA, contact your local Poison Control Center or emergency room right away.

 Tell your doctor if you start any new medicine or change how you take old ones. Your doses may need adjustment. When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.
- Your doctor may want to do blood tests to check for certain side effects while you take SUSTIVA.

side effects while you take SUSTIVA.

Capsules

The dose of SUSTIVA capsules for adults is 600 mg (three 200-mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see Can children take SUSTIVA?).

Tablets

The dose of SUSTIVA tablets for adults is 600 mg (one

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Can children take SUSTIVA?
Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA.
Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your
hild's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects
while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing
lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will
determine the right dose based on your chilg's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to the active ingredient, efavirenz, or to any of the inactive ingredients. Your doctor and pharmacist have a list of the inactive ingredients.

- and pnarmacist have a list of the inactive ingredients.

 What should I avoid while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

 Women taking SUSTIVA should not become pregnant. Serious birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. Tell your doctor right away if you are pregnant. Also talk with your doctor if you want to become pregnant.

 Women should not rely only on hormone-based birth control, such as pills, injections, or implants, because SUSTIVA may make these contraceptives ineffective. Women must use a reliable form of barrier contraception, such as a condom or diaphragm, even if they also use other methods of birth control.

 Do not breast-feed if you are taking SUSTIVA. The Centers
- methods of birth control.

 Do not breast-leed if you are taking SUSTIVA. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that mothers with HIV not breast-feed because they can pass the HIV through their milk to the baby. Also, SUSTIVA may pass through breast milk and cause serious harm to the baby. Talk with your doctor if you are breast-feeding. You may need to stop breast-feeding or use a different medicine. Taking SISTIVA with slender or other medicines causing similar.
- Taking SUSTIVA with alcohol or other medicines causing similar side effects as SUSTIVA, such as drowsiness, may increase those side effects.
- Do not take any other medicines without checking with your doctor. These medicines include prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal products, especially St. John's wort.

- Before using SUSTIVA, tell your doctor if you

 have problems with your liver or have hepatitis. Your doctor may want to do tests to check your liver while you take SUSTIVA.
- have ever had mental illness or are using drugs or alcohol.
- have ever had seizures or are taking medicine for seizures [for example, Dilantin® (phenytion), Tegretol® (carbamazepine), or phenobarbital]. Your doctor may want to check drug levels in your blood from time to time.

What important information should I know about taking other medicines with SUSTIVA?
SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines, including ones for HIV, and cause serious side effects. Your doctor may change your other medicines or change their doses. Other medicines, including herbal products, may affect SUSTIVA. For this reason, it is very important to:

• let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.

tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your prescription and nonprescription medicines as well as any herbal remedies that you are taking when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

Taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz) with St. John's wort (Hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease SUSTIVA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to SUSTIVA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV drugs.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH SUSTIVA

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH SUSTIVA

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
 Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam) Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be replaced with another medicine when taken with SUSTIVA (efavirenz):

- Fortovase®, Invirase® (saquinavir) Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

The following medicines may need to have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:

- Crixivan® (indinavir) Kaletra® (lopinavir/ritonavir)
- Methadone Mycobutin® (rifabutin)
- Zoloft® (sertraline)

These are not all the medicines that may cause prob-lems if you take SUSTIVA. Be sure to tell your doctor about all medicines that you take.

medicines that you take.

General advice about SUSTIVA:
Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are
not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Do not use
SUSTIVA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do
not give SUSTIVA to other people, even if they have the
same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle
given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from
59° to 86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.
This leaflet summarizes the most important information
about SUSTIVA. If you would like more information, talk with
your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for the
full prescribing information about SUSTIVA, or you can visit
the SUSTIVA website at http://www.sustiva.com or call
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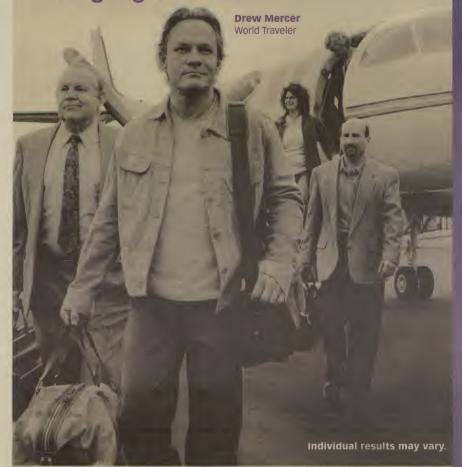
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INDICATION: SUSTIVA (efavirenz) is used in combination with other medicines to treat people who are infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

SUSTIVA does not cure HIV or prevent passing HIV to others.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: SUSTIVA should not be taken with Hismanal® (astemizole), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Halcion® (triazolam), or ergot derivatives. Tell your doctor about any medications or herbal products (particularly St. John's wort) that you are taking.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams. These feelings tend to go away after taking the medication for a few weeks. A small number of patients have reported severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. There have been a few

reports of suicide but it is not known if SUSTIVA (efavirenz) was the cause. Rash is another common side effect. Rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. If you or your child develop a rash, call your doctor right away.

Women should not become pregnant or breastfeed while taking SUSTIVA.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. The cause and long-term effects are not known at this time.

You should take SUSTIVA on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime. Taking SUSTIVA with food increases the amount of medicine in your body, which may increase the frequency of side effects. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome.



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Please see important information about SUSTIVA on the next page.



Ask your doctor if Once Daily SUSTIVA is right for you.

Film festival beat goes on

Highlights from the second week of the 47th San Francisco Intern'l Film Festival. page 27 **Charles Ludlam lives!**

'Mystery of Irma Vep' is revived at Berkeley Rep. page 28



News in briefs Underpants Party at New Langton Arts benefit. page 32



BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAI

Vol. 34 • No. 17 • 22 April 2004

ore bounce! More body! More shine!



ruce Vilanch grew up chubby, Jewish, and picked on in New Jersey. Keala Settle grew up chubby, Mormon and picked

on in Hawaii.

They took different roads to salvation in the theatre, and are sharing the stage as a chubby mom with low self-esteem and her chubby daughter shunned by the incrowd. Because the show is Hairspray, the outcasts are the heroes, in a world that takes its cues from John Waters.

Based on Waters' 1988 movie Hairspray, the musical version opened on Broadway with Harvey Fierstein and Marissa Jaret Winokur in the roles created on screen by

'Hairspray' is heaven for its two leads

by Richard Dodds

Divine and Ricki Lake. Now it's Vilanch donning the high heels as Edna Turnblad and Settle the high hair as daughter Tracy. The touring edition, arriving April 28 at the Golden Gate Theatre, represents considerable career

changes for its two stars.

Vilanch, 55, is best known as the writer of awards shows and Bette Midler concerts. But as a performer, his main fame came from four years sitting in the box

adjacent to Whoopi Goldberg on Hollywood Squares. "To have a part like this come along at this point in my life is like a gift," Vilanch said of Edna. "It's like hav-

lanch said of Edna. "It's like naving a second act."

For Settle, 28, landing the co-starring role as Tracy marks her very first professional job in the theatre. Showing up with 600 other aspirants at an open audition in LA, she was first hired as standby to Carly Jibson, and when Jibson was recently tapped for the Broadway company, Settle was awarded the role on tour. "We

page 35 ▶



Bringing together same-sex couples

by Adam Sandel

he 4,000 gay and lesbian couples who took their vows of matrimony at San Francisco City Hall put a new face on the gay experience, for the world at large and for many people in the gay community as well.

Images of same-sex couples joyously pledging to spend their lives together suddenly replaced time-honored gay media images of shirtless muscleboys and drag queens dancing in the streets.

ing in the streets.

This shift has caused consternation for conservative straights and for some gays who have asserted that homosex-uality is the opposite of heterosexuality; the desire to marry or have a monogamous relationship is thought by some to merely mock or mimic the heterosexual lifestyle.

When Dale Bullock began writing a matchmaking column in *Out Now* magazine in 1993, he received hate mail from both straight and gay readers. "One gay man said I was trying



Mash notes from the editor

'Cosmopolitan's Helen Gurley Brown peddles the flesh



Cosmo girl Helen Gurley Brown

by Roberto Friedman

are and refined bits of editorial reflection run ram-pant through Dear Pussycat Mash Notes and Missives from the Desk of Cosmopolitan's Leg-endary Editor by Helen Gurley **Brown**, just out from St. Martin's Press. "You remember the *Cosmo* male nude centerfolds? I thought it up one day while washing dishes," confides Ms. Brown. "They like to look at us naked, why not us them? Through the years we had about 10. Nothing ever caused quite the sensation of Burt Reynolds, bless his heart. He thought we kept him from being recognized as an actor. We think we got him the parts!" HGB's '92 Cosmo nudie "get"

HGBs '92 Cosmo nudie get list is a walk down wet-dream memory lane: "Dolph Lundgren, Patrick Swayze, Brad Pitt, Kevin Costner, John F. Kennedy, Jr., Jeff Fahey, Mario Van Peebles, Marky Mark."

To which our editorial reply: "Ick, ick, yum, ick, yum, ick, yum,

The ever-enterprising Cosmo editor also helpfully suggests, absolutely gratis, an ad campaign to the agency handling the Smirnoff account. "Across a no-seam white account. "Across a no-seam white background spread a man would be lying on his stomach — very bronzed — in swim trunks, and a beautiful girl would be standing beside him — or possibly on her knees — giving him a rubdown with Smirnoff. The headline would be... The

Smirnoff Rubdown.

"She might have the bottle in her hands.
"Does this sound too awful? It really isn't! I used to do that with a friend when I was a single girl, and it's re-ally quite delight-ful. The vodka is

cool. You stop and drink some if you want to." In a fit of good taste, the alco-hol purveyors passed on the idea.



Out There

gnette, as quipping,
"My Dinner with
Andre was one long,
boring dinner, but Coffee and Cigarettes is
11 fa-abulous cof-The arbulous coffee breaks."

The afterparty transpired at the San Francisco Design Center's Galleria, whose VIP corral soon filled up with the likes of Tom Waits, the RZA & GZA from Wu-Tang Clan. WowZAI The fabulous nouveau jazz was supplied by the superb Mingus Amungus, which the SF Chronicle obtusely called some Chronicle obtusely called some noisy band. Back to the 'burbs for

the screening of his film Coffee

Mead, a veteran of Andy Warhol's cin-

ema who appears in the movie's final vi-



Kevin Spacey comes clean

Parks and wreck

Uh-huh, we believe that actor-rumored-to-be-gay Kevin.

Spacey was in that South Lon-don park last weekend at 4 a.m. in order to walk his dog — except we don't think it was the dog whose needs were being met. First Spacey claimed to police that he was murged, beaten, and his mo-Spacey claimed to police that he was mugged, beaten, and his mobile phone stolen. Later, Spacey retracted the assault charge, claiming oddly that he had actually "tripped up over my dog, and I ended up falling on to the street and hitting myself in the head." The young man who ran away with his mobile? Why, isn't it perfectly natural to reach out to trou-

with his mobile? Why, isn't it perfectly natural to reach out to troubled youth — anonymously, in the park, long before daybreak? Hilariously, Spacey characterized his revised story to the press as his attempt to "come clean." Which was rather the purpose of his nocturnal expedition in the first place.

Director **Jim Jarmusch** took the stage to generous applause at



The RZA, the GZA, and Bill Murray stir up Coffee and Cigarettes.

Lodge news

First it was bigoted hetero resort **Sandals** in the Bahamas that turned away gay couples as not being Sandals' kind of people. (And Goddess bless our gay old ass for that.)
Oh ho, but now the shoe is on

Oh ho, but now the shoe is on the other foot — or perhaps in this particular case, it's more apt to say the thong is on the other pudenda. Three put-upon hetero couples say they were unceremoniously bounced from a gay hotel in Key West whilst vacationing along with their pals, a gay couple, in that homo resort paradise.

Key West has a civic ordinance on the books prohibiting discrimination by sexual orientation in housing and lodging. The spokesguy from the Gay & Lesbian Community Center was appropriately appalled by the het-

propriately appalled by the hetero-baiting. But really, we can't help but think, How fabulous!

Free speech

If you see an eager Bay Area opera-lover haunting the press seats at the War Memorial clad in a stylish black T-shirt emblazoned with the legend, "It ain't over 'til the little black dress sings. Opera: It's all about the clothes," we'll give you just one clue as to who it might be: the Lady or the Tiger?

Very Morrissey

Crooner Morrissey is back, with a vengeance. There he is, resplendent in the current issue of GQ, wearing a few choice English suits most impeccably. Then there he is in the pages of the UK Guardian, which does a delicate deeper around his desires "It's Q0. dance around his desires. "It's 20



Morrissey suits up for GQ

years since Rolling Stone magazine years since Roung Store Inagazine described him as gay, much to his annoyance, and he still refuses to specify. Often he denies any kind of sex life at all. That's his busi-ness, but it's a long time to main-

ness, but it's a long time to maintain ambiguity."

Now ensconced in LA, the Moz says: "America's such a fascinating monster that we all think that it's just too grotesque to imagine waking up to it every single day. But there are good aspects to it, even though the awful are

to it, even though the awful are truly awful. The arts are a struggle. Television's appalling. And after all the American enlightenment, we end up with **George W**. That's frightening.

"I'm not really that hot on the human race, to be honest. Very few people have anything to offer." His rare visitors include his neighbor **Nancy Sinatra**, who has plans to cover "Let Me Kiss You," a song on Morrissey's upcoming album *You Are the Quarry*.

"I think if you're remotely intelligent, you can't help being depressed. It's a positive thing to be. It means that you're not a crashing bore. I mean, you don't get support groups for rugby players, do you?"

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Strange bedfellows

2004 SF International Film Fest, week two

by David Lamble

en highlights from the sec-ond week of the 47th San Francisco International Film Festival, a run of 175 films which continues through April 29. (Info at www.sffs.org.)

Brother to Brother A film that showcases a gifted and beautiful black gay man as its present-day protagonist while invoking mem-ories of James Baldwin and major figures of the Harlem Renaissance ories of James Baldwin and major figures of the Harlem Renaissance is a coup for any fillmmaker, but especially impressive as a first-time feature for director Rodney Evans. Evans' hero Perry (Anthony Mackie) is a college student whose sexuality makes him the target of black homophobia in an African-American Studies class. Perry finds an odd ally socially and in bed, a hunky but emotionally elusive white kid named Jim (Alex Burns). In a powerful scene with echoes of Baldwin, Perry recalls his humiliation after he was attacked by his father. "When my dad caught me with this guy in my room, he was kicking the shit out of me. And he just kept screaming, 'Not in my house!"

The key to the film is the multigenerational dialogue between Perry and a mysterious older man who slides through the film like a literary ghost. He turns out to be Bruce Nugent, whose writing and friendship with Langston Hughes give us an unusual window on the past while allowing Evans to ques-

give us an unusual window on the past while allowing Evans to question how far have we come in this era of interracial dating. (Kabuki, 4/25, 26)

Carandiru Oscar-nominated Brazilian filmmaker Hector Babenco (Kiss of the Spider Woman) returns with an elaborate account of a real-life prison riot in Sao Paulo, in which 111 prisoners were shot by police under highly suspicious circumstances. Babenco tells the story leading up to this tragedy from the perspective of the prison's doctor, recruited to help stem a raging HIV epidemic.

Contents under pressure waiting to explode, the men range



A gifted black gay man in the center of Brother to Brother.

from an audacious pimp to a middle-class student caught for the revenge murder of a drug-runner. Carandiru was a unique jail, where rules were set by the injail, where rules were set by the in-mates, a feisty swath of Brazil's criminal underclass including a bevy of colorful queer characters. One of Brazil's hottest movie star studs, Rodrigo Santoro, is quite convincing in the role of a charis-matic cross-dressing prison diva. (Vab. 4/2, 29) matic cross-dre (Kab, 4/28, 29)

The Mother Ann Reid delivers a powerfully conflicted portrait of a lonely woman trapped between grief for her recently dead husband and a sudden desire to catch up with all the life she missed out on. Mom finds herself plunging interest interests which are the same of t into an intensely physical rela-tionship with a younger man, a disgruntled carpenter, working on disgruntled carpenter, working on her distracted son's London town-house. The creator of Hanif Kureishi (My Beautiful Laundrette) crafts an insightful script about how a seemingly well-adjusted senior can turn into a "recycled teenager" taking a late stab at happiness. (Kab, 4/23, 24)

Neverland The BBC's Robert Stone uncovers footage that allows us to enter into the hallucinatory headspace of those involved in solving or covering the Symbionese Liberation Army's signature crime: the 1974 kidnap-ping of newspaper heiress Patty Hearst. Director Stone adroitly Hearst. Director Stone adroitly juxtaposes the memories of SLA founding member Russell Little with the more cynical bite of *SF Chronicle* reporter Tim Findley. Stone implies that SLA members' heroic self-image was fed by shows like *Robin Hood* and movies like *Che* giving a romanticized spin to Third World revolts. (Kab, 4/24, 26; PFA, 4/27)

Hair Milos Forman's adaptation of Hair came to the screen a



Brazilian movie star Rodrigo Santoro, left, in Hector Babenco's Carandiru.

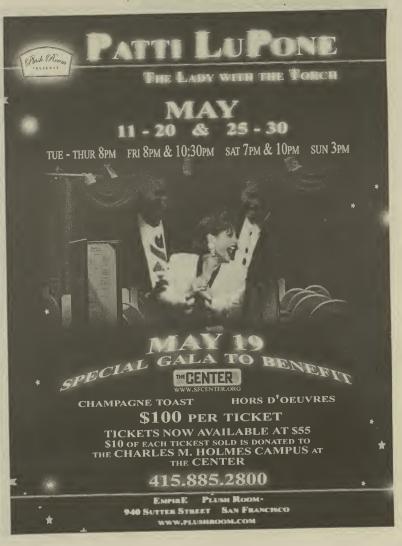
decade late. By 1979, Americans had traded in long hair for fears of Three Mile Island-style nuclear meltdowns and the nightly madmeltdowns and the lightly index-ness of the Iranian hostage crisis. While not all of McDermott, Rado & Ragni's ideals for hippie libera-tion float as freely on screen as they once did on stage, Hair, fueled by the show-stopping chemistry and pizzazz of John Savage and Treat Williams as draftee Claude and his hairy savior Berg-er, retains a lot of its punch. Williams, in his screen debut, gives a performance both muscular and sweetly innocent. (Castro, 4/23)

The Other America The kids of Eugene Martin's film live surrounded by the smells of the poor: bleach, macaroni & cheese, and young bodies deprived of daily showers. Ari (Tobias Segal) is caught in the crossfire when his homeless may need to be free homeless mom needs to be free from his abusive dad. Ari's tagger handle is Shelter Boy, but he struggles to conceal his shelter homelife from friends at school. Handheld footage, earnest acting and unexpected pathos pay off in this dimestore-budgeted indie. (Kab. 4/21-27) (Kab, 4/21,22)

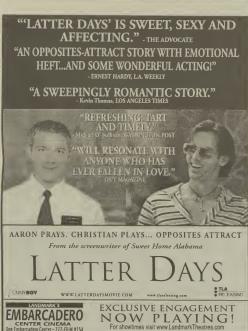
Super Size Me Everybody has heard about the once lean-andhungry filmmaker who literally ate his way to fame and a documentary award at Sundance. Morgan Spurlock said, "Over the course of making the movie, I ate nothing but McDonald's 30 days straight, to see what would happen to my body." Spurlock ballooned to 195 lbs. and started having liver problems. "When the doctors start telling you if you don't stop you're going to die, that starts to get a little scary." In a nutritional intervention, a female in a white coat advised Spurlock, "I would really like you to take a multi-vitamin." Only to hear from her patient, "McDonald's doesn't sell multi-vitamins." page 30

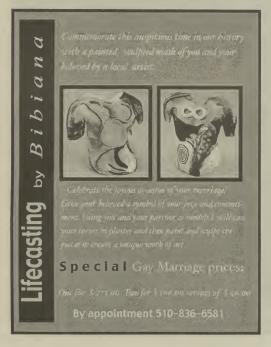
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Queer old fun

Berkeley Rep's 'Irma Vep' still thrills

by Richard Dodds

harles Ludlam was a queer artist before anyone had thought of the term "queer artist." Too much of a sissy for mainstream theater of the 1960s, he created a theatrical style around his own talents and interests. He called it "theater of the ridiculous," which mixed together camp, irony, buffoonery, puns, and references to the very mechanics of melodrama.

Until his death in 1987 of AIDS, he cranked out dozens of plays in which he could star, but the one that has proven the most accommodating of other actors and most accessible to audiences is The Mystery of Irma Vep. The program for the Berkeley Rep's handsome production reports that Irma Vep was the most-produced play in America in 1991.

Here we are in 2004, and Irma Vep has acquired a chestnut's patina. The primary reason to revive it, ideally, would be to showcase the special talents of particular performers. But Berkeley Rep and director Les Waters seem to have taken the opposite tactic, choosing the play before finding the actors to do it.

Not that there is anything less than professional polish in the performances of Arnie Burton harles Ludlam was a queer

Not that there is anything less than professional polish in the performances of Arnie Burton and Erik Steele in a fistful of quick-changes roles. They provide pleasure both to those experiencing Irma Vep for the first time and to those revisiting a familiar friend. But the next step up in inspiration is not there, which would provide a true rationale for



Arnie Burton as Lady Enid, and Erik Steele as Lord Elgar in Irma Vep

the play's revival. Steele and Burton's ability to switch characters and costumes in seconds can be

and costumes in seconds can be breathtaking.

Using the movie *Rebecca* for the basic plot, and adorning it with references from numerous sources, *Irma Vep* tells the story of the second Lady Hillcrest dealing with her husband's and the servants' ford momenties of the first. vants' fond memories of the first Lady Hillcrest. Werewolves, vam-pires, Egyptian mummies, bleed-ing oil paintings, and secret cham-bers are all part of the mix, which

also includes humorous acknowledgment of how theatre is made.

The play stumbles near the end with too many spoofy scenarios competing for attention. But mostly, it's fun enough to spend two hours with the comfortingly queer spirit of Charles Ludlam. ▼

The Mystery of Irma Vep will run through May 23 at Berkeley Rep. Tickets are \$43-\$55. Call (510) 647-2949 or go to berkeleyrep.org.

Pep smothers

'Thoroughly Modern Millie' in San Jose

by Richard Dodds

horoughly Modern Millie may not be the least interest-ing musical ever to win a best-musical Tony Award, but it's in the running. It beat out Mamma Mia! for the 2002 prize, Mamma Mial for the 2002 prize, which you might make a case for, but it also beat out *Urinetown*, which had to be a case of judges choosing sweet nothings over a slightly acidic something.

But it's the people's choice as well. Millie is still running on Broadway, while *Urinetown* is not. The touring edition now at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts. Though simplified in

San Jose Center for the Performing Arts, though simplified in scenery, is a reasonable rendering of both the pleasures and annoyances of the New York original.

Thoroughly Modern Millie takes its name, plot, and title song from the 1967 movie musical about a small-town girl of the 1920s jumping into New York's Jazz Age swirl. The movie was something of an endearing mess, and unlike, say, Singin' in the Rain, it doesn't set an impossibly high standard for a stage adaptation.

Even so, the musical doesn't get much beyond a formula approach, and even in that can't quite decide what it wants to be. Dancing is a big part of the show, but Rob Ashford's choreography, which seems inspired by Susan

which seems inspired by Susan Stroman's creations, produces un-



Darcie Roberts, center, as Millie: small-town girl in the Jazz Age swirl

attractive steps in a quest for innovation. There are one or two lively new tunes by Jeanine Tesori and Dick Scanlan, but the best is the recycled title song and, in a rare moment of inspiration, a Chinese rendering of "My Mammy." The script by Scanlan and Richard Morris follows famil-iar boy-meets-girl patterns, but can't squeeze many laughs out of

can't squeeze many laughs out of a white-slavery subplot that be-comes downright irritating. In the title role, Darcie Roberts isn't regulation pretty, but she has the pipes and personality for the role, and she displays a fine bit of physical comedy in the second act. Joey Sorge is perfectly agreeable as the guy she ends up with, but it is Diana Kaarina as Millie's best

friend and Sean Allan Krill as her boss who hit the right comic notes in their story of instant infatua-tion. Hollis Resnik is stuck with the role of Mrs. Meers, an American con artist who adopts a broad Chinese accent in which Millie comes out Mirrie.

The best that can be said of Millie is that it has pep. But even pep can become enervating when it's not coupled to something worth being peppy about.

Thoroughly Modern Millie runs through May 2 under the aegis of American Musical Theatre of San Jose. Tickets are \$45-\$72. Call (888) 455-7469 or go to

Heartstopping perfection

San Francisco Ballet's take on Sir Frederick Ashton

by Stephanie von Buchau

he late romance novelist Barbara Cartland once wrote a passage in which a snotty bluestocking told off The Grand Sophy (one of Cartland's Grand Sophy (one of Cartland's most enchanting heroines) for fussing about her wardrobe. "There are more important things than clothing," the snot huffed, to which Sophy, a six-foot-tall redhead who looked spectacular in ball gowns or hunting costume, replied calmly, "So I understand, but not, I trust, when one is dressing for dinner."

I thought of this rational put-

ing for dinner."

I thought of this rational putdown when people started complaining that last week's San Francisco Ballet program 7, devoted mostly to works by Sir Frederick Ashton, was definitely not Balanchine. Sophy would surely have replied something sensible, such as, "Of course it is not. Balanchine was a heterosexual, Russian-born American choreographer, while American choreographer, while Sir Fred was a gay Brit, born in Ecuador. The only things similar about them is their birthyear, 1904, and the fact that each, depending upon which side of the pond you claim as home, was considered the 20th century's finest ballet choreographer." There is one other similarity,

There is one other similarity, an exquisite musicality that links them with the 21st century's finest choreographer, Mark Morris, whose new, full-length Sylvia gets its world premiere next weekend at San Francisco Ballet. I bring up Morris because he is known to be an idolater of Mr. B, yet he has called Ashton's Symphonic Variations, which had its SFB premiere on April 13, "the best ballet ever." Hyperbole, perhaps, yet this 1946 work, which I hadn't seen in at least three decades, seemed to me

work, which I hadn't seen in at least three decades, seemed to me close to ideal. Combined with another fabulous Ashton piece, Monotones I & II, Variations achieved heartstopping perfection.

That Helgi Tomasson chose to break the mood with Ashton's tawdry Thais pas de deux and Kenneth MacMillan's crowdpleasing Elite Syncopations says more about the crowd than it does about Tomasson's taste. For those who don't "get" Ashton, I suggest that it is something like Mozart, perhaps not as accessible to the young and impatient as it is to the young and impatient as it is to those who are ruled by forces more mature than mere hormones. Yet musically, Ashton is an



Damian Smith, Julie Diana, Vanessa Zahorian in Symphonic Variations

equal of Balanchine and Morris.

Super human

Who else could (or would) dare turn the earthy Gallic gush of Cesar Franck's *Symphonic Variations for Piano and Orchestra*, played with tremendous rhythmic force by Michael McGraw, into something so exquisite it is more than human? If I didn't think it would give the anti-Asthon crowd would give the anti-Ashton crowd ammunition, I'd suggest that the six dancers who never enter or exit but remain on stage the whole 29 minutes, either dancing or posing in utter stillness, are actually figures on an extremely complicated music box.

cated music box.

Sometimes they move deliberately, two or more at a time in gracious unisons; yet suddenly the girls peel off like birds from a mass flight and scurry through what had been a stately ensemble. The signature movement is a series of arm and head postures (epaulement) as poised as they are difficult. The dancers — Julie Diana, Vanessa Zahorian, Tina Diana, Vanessa Zahorian, Tina LeBlanc, Damian Smith, Joan Boada and Nicolas Blanc — wear Sophie Fedorovitch's dated but somehow timeless costumes. The somehow timeless costumes. The girls sport short white dresses, while the men's tunics fetchingly expose a shoulder and bare chest. Black, branch-like designs on the men's costumes and on the austere jonquil-colored set support Ashton's theme of springtime renewal after the horrors of WWII.

Monotones I & II is not new to

to Satie's "Trois Gnossiennes," or-chestrated by John Lanchbery) surrounded by two women (Nicole Starbuck and Rachel Viselli), whose steps in perfect unison were as breathtaking as the slowly evolving shapes made by three entwined bodies moving in what seems like effortless slow motion. I've always loved this piece, but have never seen it done with this degree of security and musicality. Andrew Mogrelia had

Monotones I (created in 1966

musicality. Andrew Mogrelia had the orchestra playing with dream-like, underwater propulsion.

That was good, because they let down the side in the "Meditation" from Massener's Thais that accompanies Ashton's hootchy-kootchy dream duet. Roy Malan's violin solo was out of tune and not very alluringly obrased Yuan Yuan Tan solo was out of tune and not very alluringly phrased. Yuan Yuan Tan should be good in the mysterious houri bit (it's obviously Sir Fred's gloss on La Bayadere), but her current partnership with Pierre-Franciois Vilanoba is not working.

He's like a handsome ploughhorse, tough, sturdy, earthy, but also stolid and effortful, while she— a thoroughbred who is always at least eye-pleasing with that

at least eye-pleasing with that peerless line — tends to go blank when she is not in emotional sync when she is not in emotional sync with her partner. When Antoinette Sibley and Anthony Dowell danced it here in 1981, I thought it was sex on a stick, but that was over two decades ago. Autres temps, autres moeurs.



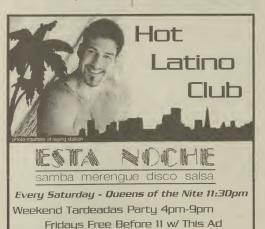






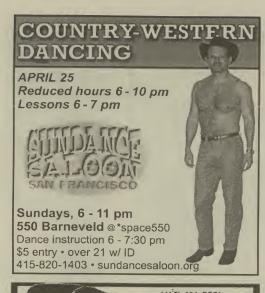
SFB; however, its 1981 incarna-





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Match game

to force gays to parody straight re-lationships, and three of the let-ters were quite scary," he says. But the socio-political climate has changed dramatically in the 11 years since Bullock founded Bonds Limited, now a thriving business of bringing together lov-ing, stable, monogamous same-

business of bringing together loving, stable, monogamous same-sex partners. "I haven't had a neg-ative letter in years," he says. "I don't have to sell lifetime monogamy anymore."

Since 1993, Bullock has matched up 231 gay and lesbian couples. Only seven of those cou-ples have gone their separate ways, and Bullock typically finds another match for those clients. He currently has 311 men and 214 women in his program, ranging in women in his program, ranging in age from their 20s to 50s. They represent all ethnic and racial

represent all ethnic and racial groups, and each is committed to finding a life partner. If, while chatting with you, Bullock appears to be thinking of someone to set you up with, he probably is. He found his true calling after a 10-year stint in corporate H.R. "I was in my 30s, and after a 10-year relationship dissolved, I was single again. I realized there weren't many options for meeting people many options for meeting people besides personal ads and bars. "I read 200 books on relation-

ships, and I learned so much that I could see doing this as a career." Bullock met his current partner José in 1993 and began his life as a professional matchmaker. The business is a team effort; while Dale makes the matches, José handles the accounting, photography and computer work.

Circle game

In his first three years of business, Bullock took on all interested clients and matched 10% of them, by combining profiles and photos and arranging meetings. But as his business grew, Bullock began to be more selective in his choice of clients. Of the seven or more clients he interviews each month, he takes on about three. month, he takes on about three, with an eye towards finding matches for his current clients.

Experience has taught him that he's not likely to match peothat he's not likely to match peo-ple with negative attitudes about life, dating or themselves. He draws a target of availability: the outer layer is social, the inner layer is intimacy, and the center is com-mitment. "With some coaching, I can work with clients who need help on the social layed," he saye help on the social level," he says, "But if people don't have the abil-ity to be intimate or to commit, I can't work with them.'



Dale Bullock sets up gay couples.

He spends time with his clients and joins them on (and pays for) all first dates. Now 10% of his clients are matched within six clients are matched within six months, 70% are matched within 18 months, and over three years in the program, nearly 90% of his clients will meet their life partner. The fee is currently \$10,000 per client. Membership is "for life." For matches that don't succeed, clients are welcomed back into the program for proceed first dates (and free for the feet of the feet gram for more first dates (and free food), until a match can be made.

Bullock recommends non-monogamous dating leading to a monogamous partnership. "Meeting others after you've found someone you like will ei-

ther confirm your decision or cause you to question it," he says. It typically takes 30-90 days after meeting before a couple will begin to date exclusively. "Most gay relationships fail because peo-ple move too quickly," says Bul-lock. "Because of a historical lack of abundance, people feel they need to hang onto someone or

they'll lose them."
His biggest challenge is teaching his clients that their faith in themselves must come first.
"Matchmaking walks on the edge
of life where emotions, identity
and self-worth live," he says. "In
coaching, I need to be direct and with my clients at all

Catch all

Nick Szeto and Gordon Runnels, who have been together for five years, were both in their mid-20s when they entered Bullock's program. Both were discouraged by the bar and club scenes, but for Gordon, a Texan who was dis-owned by his Jehovah's Witness family when he came out, the problem was especially acute. "I had gone through so much to come out," he says. "But when I

came to San Francisco, I thought

Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe I made a terrible mistake."

Gordon's previous partner wanted an open relationship, "and I had a really tough time with that. I finally called the whole thing off".

thing off."
Nick was looking for someone who shared his desire for monogamy and had a history of solid marriages in his family. "I'm a little shy about introducing myself to people, so it was fun to have the dates set up," he says. After meeting six men through the pro-gram, Nick met Gordon. "After our first date I said, 'He's perfect.' He met all my qualifications, and we really connected."

Both appreciated knowing that

Bonds clients are looking for seri-ous relationships. "In usual dating you can't say, 'Are you really seri-ous?" says Gordon. They were in-structed to end their first date with a yay or nay. "That was a real plus. It cuts through a lot of the games that are played in dating."

games that are played in dating."
Marjorie Heinrich and Jann
Nunn, who have been together for two years, insist that they never would have met if not through Bullock. "We're so different," says Jann. "Marjorie is an athlete and attorney, and I'm an artist and professor."

professor."

Both had grown weary of attempting to meet potential partners through social events and the Internet. A year into the program, Bullock introduced Marjorie to Jann. "When he said she's a lawyer, I thought, 'No way,'" says Jann. "But we had a fabulous conversation on the phone and a wonderful first date. She's very intelligent, with a terrific sense of humor, and when I first met her,

numor, and when I lifst met ner, well... she's very attractive."

By their third date, both women knew that they'd found "the one," but didn't move in together until eight months into the

gether until eight months into the relationship — despite the old joke about lesbians bringing a U-Haul on the second date. "When we moved in, we joked about taking a picture of ourselves in flannel shirts, baseball caps and a U-Haul," says Jann.

While all of these people expressed respect for various forms of same-sex relationships, be they open or monogamous, the days of stigmatizing anything from homosexuality itself to same-sex monogamy are numbered. "My personal hope," says Gordon, "Is that in 10 to 15 years, gay people won't have to think so hard about 'Can I find a relationship? Can I 'Can I find a relationship? Can I be happy?'" ▼

Info at www.bondslimited.com.



Joy Bryant in Baadasssss

SF Film Festival

◄ page **27**

(Kab, 4/23, 28)

Baadasssss! In 1971, pioneering black director Melvin Van Peebles had the then-revolutionary idea of sympathetically depicting a strong black man battling corrupt strong black man battling corrupt cops. Melvin's son Mario (playing his dad, complete with all his unlovely mood swings and manipulative agendas intact) now tells the story of the making of Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song, a fresh spin on the life behind those funky '70s hairstyles and elathes. Every more Melvin clothes. Every move Melvin makes, from having son Mario play a sex scene at age 15 to punching out his white film editor, leaves us wondering if the film we know got made will get made. Baadassss! captures the costs of living the dream. (Kab, 4/27, 28) Mon Idole This backstage look at

French reality TV is sparked by an unusual personality clash between a passive-aggressive assistant direc-tor and the channel's manipulative Mr. Big. Bastien (Guillaume Canet) yearns to one-up his show's self-absorbed host and launch his own broadcast. A weekend at the boss' country estate is a nightmare closer to *Salo* than *La Dolce Vita*. Canet, who also directs, mounts a character-driven comedy that is shamelessly funny about humilia-tion TV. (Kab, 4/25, 29)

The Corporation Co-directors Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott argue that a pro-business ruling on the 14th Amendment (meant to abolish slavery) gave corporations all the rights of real persons. Achbar & Abbott throw everything but their laptops into a checklist that paints the modern corporation as a kind of business sociopath, with an unbridled id that lends itself to abuse. This is a film one fears may never end. (Kab, 4/23, 25) ▼

More shock, less awe

by Victoria A. Brownworth

pril has certainly been TV's pril has certainly been TV's cruelest month. Scenes of unremitting violence in Iraq and grim footage of soldiers and civilians kidnapped by insurgents have touched everyone. Everyone except the President and his cohort, that is.

May sweeps loom, which explains why the White House is trying to wrest control of TV away trying to wrest control of TV away from, well, everyone else. Two press conferences in one week from the President, who has granted the fewest press conferences since Richard Nixon, can't be a good thing. Neither was watching them. If ever there were consens in preed of an Extraore someone in need of an Extreme Makeover, it's George W. Bush.

The prime-time press conference was infuriating. With all the practice the President has had with lying, he should have be-come a tad more facile. Hasn't he learned anything from Condoleezza Rice and Dick Cheney, the best liars in Washington?

Then there was the in terrupt-the-soaps terrupt-the-soaps midday press confer-ence on April 16, with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, also infu-riating. There was something truly dreadful about watching our watching our President defer to the British **Lavender Tube**

to the British
Prime Minister on matters of
State. We could just see the
Founding Fathers spinning in
their graves. Blair stood there in
the bright spring sunshine of the
White House rose garden, outside
our seat of government, and made
our President's case for him.
Then, in the most embarrassing
moment, Bush gave his heh-heh
laugh and told the PM he'd done
a good job. Later that night,

laugh and told the PM he'd done a good job. Later that night, Jimmy Kimmel replayed bits from the press conference. It looked like a Saturday Night Live skit.

Meanwhile, back at the 9/11 Commission, the FBI and CIA finally got called out — not that it means anything, of course, in the grand Bush scheme of things. But it was heartening since, when it was heartening since, when most of us completely screw up our jobs, we get fired.

Down low

Shame was *Oprah*'s topic last Friday (the show will repeat April 23; check local listings). Her primary guest was J.L. King, author of *On the Down Low*, a book about black men who do not identify as gay or bisexual, but who have sex with other men while living ostensibly straight lives. The issue was also the subject of a propocative Low & Order. ject of a provocative Law & Order episode last week.

Not only does Oprah continue



Oprah is red-hot on the down low

to look fabulous at 50, she's featuring red-hot social issues this season. Thus far it's been domestic violence, alcoholism, and now discovery and homophobic reaction have helped escalate the number of African Americans with HIV/AIDS.

There are many in the queer community who won't be surprised by this info, nor by the news that AIDS is the leading cause of death among

African Amer icans between 15 and 44, but

this episode of Oprah is a breakout show for the

Opran is a breakout show for the black community.
Jonathan Perry, a college student at Johnson C. Singer University, an historically black college in North Carolina, appeared on the show. Perry was diagnosed with HIV at 19, and is now speaking out about the "down low" and the refusal by same men to practice. refusal by some men to practice safe sex. Perry also spoke about the trend of down-low on college

the trend of down-low on college campuses. Well-known black AIDS ac-tivist Phil Wilson, director of the Black AIDS Institute, also ap-peared on the show. Oprah ad-dressed other new aspects of AIDS, such as the rise of HIV in-fection among people page 50 fection among people over 50.

Hearts broken

ER, one of the most subtly cut-ting-edge dramas on TV, ad-dressed the down-low issue two seasons ago. They are on the cusp again, building toward a sweeps-month crescendo with a queer storyline that is already a heart-breaker even though it's inst be-treaker even though it's inst bebreaker, even though it's just be

For several years, ER has feator several years, ER has reatured ER director Kerri Weaver (Laura Innes) as she came to terms with her lesbianism, had several affairs in which she remained closeted, and then was outed by her Latina fire-rescueworker lover Sandy Lopez (Lisa Vidal), who kissed her full on the mouth in the middle of the ER. Lopez told Weaver that the outing was the best thing she had ever done for her. That was three seasons ago. The two moved in together. Kerri got premark gether, Kerri got pregnant through Al, miscarried, and then Sandy had their baby, Henry. Last week, Sandy was severely injured in a fire and died on the operating

The episode was, like many of the best episodes of this always-involving drama, almost unbear-ably painful to watch. Weaver, a hard-ass, no-nonsense type whose prickly nature has won her few friends in the ER, sobbed openly

friends in the ER, sobbed openly in the arms of a colleague. After a night spent in part sitting by the side of her dead lover, Weaver went to the home of Sandy's parents to pick up her son.

That's when the drama truly began. The family, accepting of neither Lopez's relationship with Weaver nor the women's working while having a baby, refused to return the child to Kerri. This is a drama lesbians all over America are experiencing. Kudos to ER for once again addressing important queer issues in prime time.

Speaking of lesbian mothers being denied their children, it has been almost too painful watching

been almost too painful watching Eden Riegel's heartbreaking per-formance as the bereft lesbian mother Bianca Montgomery on All My Children. Where is that

Emmy?
We have also been fascinated by the friendship between Jamie and Maggie, the college-student fuckbuddies. Maggie is in love with Bianca and has been for some time, vying with Lena for Bianca's attentions. Jamie has explained to Maggie, wistfully, how much he wishes he had the kind of love she and Bianca share. Very interesting.

interesting.
Last week, Entertainment
Weekly crowned Chris Rock the Weekly crowned Chris Rock the funniest man in America, a decision we cannot dispute, particularly after seeing his HBO special April 17. Rock couldn't possibly be funnier, and the special is a must-see (it repeats over the next few weeks.) Rock has never shied away from controversial material. few weeks.) Rock has never shied away from controversial material, be it political or social, and this show takes on everything from Michael Jackson ("We love Michaels o much we let the first kid slide") to parenthood, to Martha Stewart ("Once they start sending rich white women to jail, everybody's going, Kobe's going, everybody's going, Don't miss it.

Finally, the much-hyped finale of the NBC ratings phenom The Apprentice ended with the white guy, Bill, winning over the black guy, Kwami. We were so surprised!

guy, Kwami. We were so surprised! And who says reality TV isn't like real life? Stay tuned. ▼

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Out There

◄ page **26**

The talk turns to his new song "All the Lazy Dykes," about the liberating effects of coming out of the closet. "'Trying to get some-body to,' Morrissey corrects, smiling. 'Telling her if she came to join the lazy dykes, she'd be one herself. She needed me to tell her, of course, because she can't come to that conclusion herself.' Doesn't that invite speculation? 'No. Andy that invite speculation? 'No. Andy Williams could have sung that song. It just happens to be me

who's singing it.' This is nonsense, but let's press on. Does he believe in love? 'Um. I believe it does exist, yes. I've skirted it on a few occayes. I've skirted it on a few occasions.' But never plunged in? 'Plunged? I think I've plunged, yeah.' Were all these people women? 'They seemed to be, as far as I knew. They would all be women if they had a choice.' He laughs as if to say: 'That's all you're getting.'"

Finding the nadir

Memo to: Independent vanity candidate Ralph Nader From: Republican National

Message: Thanks for everything you're doing for us again this year, Ralph! Together, we can win another one for **W**. come November. We saw a television interview in which you were asked if you considered yourself a spoiler in the 2000 election. You said you in the 2000 election. You said you couldn't spoil something, i.e., the two-party system, that was spoiled already. In other words, when asked for a straight answer, you came up with empty rhetoric and semantics. We like your style, and we're sure all GOPers are glad you're on their side! ▼







Panty raid

Benefit for New Langton Arts tonight

by Kevin Davis

nderpants Party, tonight's New Langton Arts benefit, features unmentionables customized, re-imagined, embroidered and photographed by about 40 painters, video, sculpture, conceptual and spoken-word artists. Curator Eamon Ore-Giron instructed his urban rustic, interdisciplinary peers to re-purpose a

ciplinary peers to re-purpose a comfy pair of crisp, new, snow-white, machine-washable, classic 100% combed-cotton Y-front jockey shorts, with snappy acrylic waistband. This under-40 Clarion Alley crowd treats the undergar-ment derisively as Sears catalog, ment derisively as Sears catalog, old-school, mommy-bought, util-itarian hygienic, chaste, must-add-bleach camp spectacle, thus putting the nail in the coffin of briefs as over-fetishized gay porn-

star costume.
"I wanted to throw a benefit that has a sense of humor and that people could get creative with, something so basic and everyday as underwear," says Tucson native

Ore-Giron.
Jason Jagel sketched a punky, downcast, city-dwelling Native American in ink and pencil on both sides of a sturdy paper loin-cloth. He describes his artistic process as "staring at a quite hideous pair of large, white, lacy, stretch underwear, trying to render something so alien into something of my own." Jagel's partner, commercial and fine-arts photographer Kelli Yon, lined the skivvies' insides with pastel-pink fake fur.

skivves insides with paster-pink fake fur. Steve Lambert screen-printed the word "Advertisement" on pink and tan men's low-rise bikini briefs, part of his activist career role as culture-jamming prankster, re-inventing the com-mercial pollution of found bill-

boards and posters.

David Soule's piece displays evidence bags containing Polaroid snapshots of himself posing in his briefs, which he sprayed with a graffiti logo, then Illustrated into existing photos of generic existing photos of generic motel rooms. The photos have the crass, hard-luck, trespassed feel of photos that might turn up in a

true-crime pocketbook.
"Self-objectification and exploitation, both physically and creatively," musician and muralist Soule labels his work. Lissa Ivy Teagel's dyed-

Lissa lvy Teagel's dyed-yellow panties, embroi-dered in red with the words "Inexorable elimi-nation of the superflu-ous," perhaps express her rejection of biology's re-lentless reminder to pro-create through the mencreate through the men-struation cycle.

Brian Storts satirizes

Brian Storts satirizes
brand-name designer
chic by stenciling "B.S."
on his briefs. Another
RISD sculpture grad, Carolyn Ryder Cooley, a
multi-disciplinary installation artist, crafted a pincushion
by padding the crotch of aged ma-

by padding the crotch of aged ma-roon-and-white lace panties, punctured with feathered needles.



"In the end I just let it be what it was, a kind of mundane object, casual, intimate, and sort of gross," says installation artist Shane Aslan Selzer of his doorstop-like, cement-filled shorts, accented with hot-orange road paint. cement-filled

Alissa Anderson submitted a fortifying, trenchant color photo of a briefs-clad, well-toned young man posing in a messy art studio beside a wall-mounted pentagram

and electric candle-covered alter.
Portland, Oregon's Harrel
Fletcher, known for site-specific
neighborhood projects, drew a neighborhood projects, drew a penis and testicles with felt-tip



Tighty whities light up the nighty at Langton

pen on the shorts' front, and autographed the back.

Langton's first floor becomes a lascivious disco for the benefit with the metal/electronica and with the metal/electronica and femme vocals of Crack: We are Rock, the groove rock of Tussle, and "neurotic Jewish Madonna"/Laney College acting teacher Minx. Hong Kong native DJ Saiman mixes pop, dance and ambient styles between sets.

The first 50 guests to purchase a \$50 Langton membership receive one lovingly crafted, distinctive pair of underpants art. All proceeds directly benefit Langton's artists-run programs.

Underpants Party commences
Thursday, April 22, 8 p.m. at New
Langton Arts, 1249 Folsom St.
Tix: \$5-10 sliding scale/\$5 members, students, seniors. Call 626-5416. ▼

Langton's legacy

by Kevin Davis

he San Francisco Art Dealers Association and a cross-section of the creative community founded the nonprofit, artist-run 80 Langton Street gallery in 1975, charged with a mission to 80 Langton Street gallery in 1975, charged with a mission to give the city an experimental research center cultivating edgy modern performance, visual arts, music and media, free of market obligations. Today, half of Langton's 25-member Director's Board consists of working artists.

"Here there's no pressure of creating art to sell," says six-year Program Director James Bewley, from performance troupe Killing My Lobster.

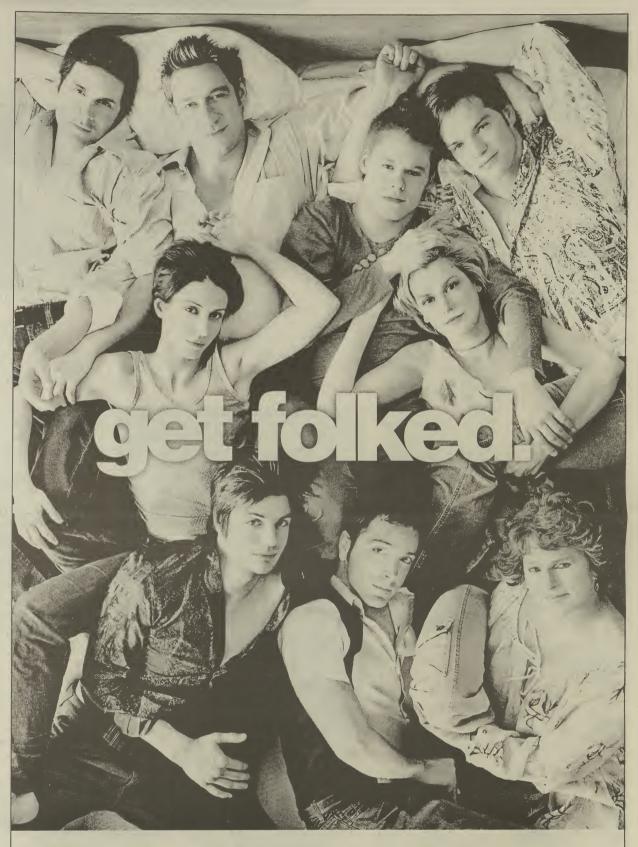
My Lobster.

"It was founded on the principle, going back to the '70s, where selling or not selling was not relevant," says Renny Pritikin, New Langton Arts' director from '79-'92. "The alternative community coming out of Vietnam, the era of alternative education, alternative art spaces and alternative art statements, wanted an institution for their colleagues to show the newest politically conscious work not shown in museums — by women, gay people, people of color. It was primarily conceptual, non-objective art-performance, installation, and video, forms growing up in the '70s. But noone connected could show their own art."

Langton's live events, exhibitions, forums, lectures, readings and

nected could show their own art."

Langton's live events, exhibitions, forums, lectures, readings and panels have promoted over 7,000 artists in its 29 years. Artists who emerged at Langton early in their careers include Survival Research Laboratories' Mark Pauline, Robert Mapplethorpe with his '78 fisting-and-rimming X portfolio, Nayland Blake with his first installation, illustrator Ed "Big Daddy" Roth ('90), documentary photographer Carrie Mae Weems ('93), aerosol muralist Barry McGee ('95), and Ghost World cartoonist Daniel Clowes. ▼



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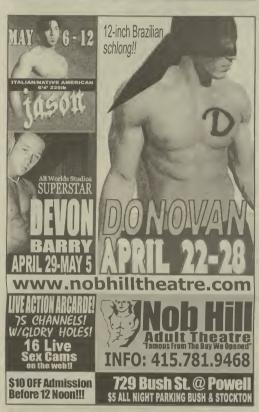
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Shave and a haircut

Classic 'Sweeney Todd' out on DVD

by John F. Karr

he people have voted, and Stephen Sondheim's Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street is the conto see. With recent productions at the NY City Opera, Chicago Lyric, Calgary Opera, and Royal Opera Covent Garden, it's the only opera Covent Garden, it's the only opera in the last 25 years to attain such a broad-based popularity. Sweeney Todd opened on Broadway in March 1979, so it's now 25 years old. To celebrate that anniversary, Warner Home Video has released a smashing DVD of the original production. production.

production.

Well, most of the original production. The show was taped before a live audience at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in 1982, two full years after the show concluded its New York run. Time and touring wrought their change. Much of the massive set is gone, simply too big to travel. But it was stifling, and its absence has an expansive effect. Most of the origi-



Angela Lansbury as Nellie Lovett, and George Hearn as Sweeney Todd.

nal cast is gone. The original Sweeney Todd has been succeed-ed by George Hearn, who may sing less sweetly than Len Cariou, but who connects more viscerally with the role. Chris Groenendaal, as the sailor Anthony, is bigger, handsomer, and a much more

heroic singer than Victor Garber had been. It's unfortunate that Ken Jennings, playing Tobias, hadn't left, for he can neither act nor sing on key. And it's unfortu-nate that understudy Betsy Joslyn had taken over Johanna, for her

nate that understudy Betsy Joslyn had taken over Johanna, for her gulping and shrill chirping decimates her music.

Still, it's the original production, fully and intricately staged. The blood flies chillingly, and the barber's chair is a brilliant contraption. And, of course, there's Angela Lansbury. Fifty-six years old at the time, and plumbing the role with a nuanced gusto that nobody of any age has equaled since. Certainly no pair of stars will ever attain the ghoulish glee of Lansbury and Hearn's Act I finale: "For what's the sound of the world out there? It's man devouring man, my dear, and who are we to deny it in here?"

The videotaping of the broadcast was an Emmy award-winning model of its kind. Broad shots deliver the production's scope, but constant close-ups involve us intimately with the performers. So, despite distressingly rushed tempos most everywhere (were the creative team worried they were overtaxing their audience?), the lyricism and depth of the score come through. The characters may be one-dimensional Victorian stereotypes, but Sondheim treats them as real,

mensional Victorian stereotypes, but Sondheim treats them as real, and gives them music of rapturous soul. This DVD, with skillfully remastered sound and picture, is a priceless and incredibly enjoyable document. ▼

FROM THE BEST MOVIES EVERY WEEK



RETURN PASS ARE GOOD FOR ONE TIME ONLY



Hairspray in SF

both got our calls the same day,

both got our calls the same day," settle said. "It was a first gig for both of us, and we kinda lost it. We both started crying."

Hairspray is set in early '60s Baltimore, where the greatest status symbol for a teen is to become a regular dancer on a local American Bandstand-type show. When the ever-optimistic Tracy tries out for the show, she is mocked because of her size, and then flatly rejected when she makes a pitch for civil rights. The show delivers its messages lightly, using exuberant musicals numbers and a heartfelt cartoon approach that really does have audiences dancing in the aisles as the final curtain drops.

drops.

If audiences enjoy what they see, the performers enjoy what they see, the performers enjoy the audiences. "The company feeds off the audience," Settle said. "I'm sure in any show that is the case, but even more so in this show, because it's so high energy and there's so much joy behind it. Everything is so intense and so inviting that you can't help your-

self."
Not that every performance on
the tour has begun that way.
"Sometimes in the beginning it
will be a near-death experience,
because they're just not there to
have a good time," Vilanch said.
"But by the end of the show,
they're whistling and standing."

Scene level

Vilanch and Settle both were speaking from Denver, a stop on the tour that began in September. "I'm breathing heavily because we're a mile high," Vilanch said. "Next week is Phoenix, which is below sea level, so I'll have lung power. You do notice the altitude because you have to run around and sing, and some of us are wearing high heels and 35 pounds of fat suit."

Settle also wears padding, a bit ironic since the producers asked her to lose about 35 lbs. for health



Keala Settle plays Tracy

and stamina reasons before hiring her. "I've actually lost about 100 lbs. because no one ever told me to stop," she said. "So when I got to rehearsals, it was, like, OK, stop. They said, 'Go to McDonald's right now."

Iney said, "Go to McDonald's right now."

Weight was a big issue in her schooldays. "People are mean," she said. "That's probably one of the few things where I'm not like Tracy Turnblad at all. Because, in the show, she lets it slide because her parents always told her to can. her parents always told her to go for it. For me, I almost let it destroy my self-esteem. It made me a

stroy my self-esteem. It made me a really angry teen."

The promise of a new regional theater that never opened lured her to Las Vegas after college. Working a succession of day jobs, she performed in numerous community theatre productions that often found her in older and/or ethnic character roles like Bloody Mary in South Pacific, Evillene in The Wiz, and Miss Hannigan in Annie.

"They've all been supporting roles, so when I got this, I kept asking, 'Are you sure?' I had driven down to LA before for Les Miz auditions, Lion King auditions, When I finally got this gig, I asked one of

finally got this gig, I asked one of the casting agents why, and he said in the character of Tracy there's a

personality that they look for in a girl, and if the personality's not there, they know it won't fly. So I

there, they know it won't hy. So I guess I have that personality."

Bruce Vilanch also has personality. "I've been lucky in that I chose a field where you can be an individual," he said. "You can be flamboyant, and it's actually encouraged."

There's a lot of Bruce now in

There's a lot of Bruce now in There's a lot of Bruce now in Edna Turnblad, a personalizing of the character that's encouraged by the Hairspray creators. "It's certainly there," Vilanch said. "More than it was at the beginning, when I was just trying to be what the authors wanted."

thors wanted."
Vilanch also adds one or two
lines customized for each town
the show has played. "There's a
point in the second act like a
vaudeville number that Tracy's
mother and father do, where you
can break the fourth wall. What
happened in Baltimore one night
was that the place was flooded out. can break the fourth wall. What happened in Baltimore one night was that the place was flooded out by Hurricane Isabel, and so the next night, when Wilbur had his hands on my boobs, I said, 'If this place floods again, we can use these for flotation devices.' The director said, 'Can you think of that for some other cities, too?' The only people who don't like it seem to be critics. I used to be a critic, so I know exactly how serious to take their comments."

Vilanch's first career was as an entertainment writer at two Chicago newspapers, and his review of Bette Midler led her to hire him as a writer. Hollywood Squares turned him into a bona fide celebrity. "That show changed everything," said Vilanch, who had actually once written material for original center-square Paul Iynde.

al for original center-square Paul

Everyone knew Paul was gay,



The show offers exuberant musical numbers and a cartoonish approach

said. "I actually made references to having a gay sex life. They asked me to tone it down a bit after a would get into bitter fights over it."

it."

Although there are no overtly gay characters in *Hairspray*, it is a gay show through and through. That might be weird if you are a practicing Mormon, as is Keala Settle. "It can be weird if you let it be weird," she said. "I have no problems with anyone. All I know is that I want to be happy, and I know you want to be happy, so let's try to make it happen together."

That's one of the tenets of the In at some of the teness of the show, and it's what gives it a kick for both audiences and the performers. "It's also a lot of work, but it's not like we're doing Eugene O'Neill," Vilanch said. "I would be as potty as Vanessa Redgrave if I had to go out there and be drunk and Irish for four hours every night. I just get to carry on every night. I just get to carry on in this very joyous experience." V

Hairspray will run April 28-July 3 at the Golden Gate Theatre. Tickets are \$39-\$81. Call 512-7770 or go to bestofbroadway-

Flowers & showers

by Sweet Lips

pril showers bring May flowers — we hope! At least get-well flowers, if not lovely tulips and bon bons just to say, "I love you, Sweet Lips!" You're all

I hear that gay couples all over town are celebrating their nuptials with wedding showers, and I just want to say, Congratula-tions! It's so sweet to see committed gay couples finally re-0

ceive due recognition. Our dear Mayor Gavin Newsom is to be commended for his great support! Well, I just

Well, I just want to say I had a fabulous time the other Saturday afternoon when I accompanied Emperor Steve Rauscher, Patrick and the talented Mason at Ginger's Trois. the only time I've been out of my house, the only time I've been out other than going to the doctor! I've been improving slowly but surely. Special thanks to my roommate Steve for being so helpful while I've been incapacitated, and thank you, Marie Brewer, for your help-

Oh, and it's nice to hear that Dennis Tyler is improving. I'm sure he'll be in perfect shape in no

time!
For those of you following the interminable saga of my dear friends, Dick Deemer is once again in Puerto Vallarta helping his Ramón put the house together, and old buddy Hal Mulohil is helping them. I intend to visit once I've recovered so that I can report to you first-hand.

Meanwhile, that lovely Dolores is still doing her thing

is still doing her thing over at Aunt Charlie's Lounge on Turk St., so all you Tenderloin regulars make sure you drop to see her sometime.
She'll make you feel all
warm and cozy!
The 'N Touch

Street is still thriving, and it's one of the friendliest places along Polkstrasse to enjoy a cocktail in a **Cocktail Hour**

very relaxing atmosphere. Greta Grass is still holding forth there, and she loves hearing from her

and she loves hearing from her dear old friends.

Over in the Castro, Mr. Marlow is still tending to customers at the Mix Bar on 18th St. near Castro St., and of course he always gets a friendly crowd. As all you Castro regulars know, the Mix is a good place to go to escape the tourists and bridge-and-tunnelers who pack all the other bars! It's almost as much fun as a fifth of malt scotch and Karr in a sling! ▼



Calendare

'2004 AD'

The LAB continues to celebrate its 20th Anniversary year by show-casing a multidisciplinary range of new art through a series of programs, including the exhibition "2004 AD: Reviewing Art & Design," opening this Friday, April 23, from 6-9 p.m. The show, co-curated by Allegra Fortunati in consultation with Rex Ray, traces the line or blur between art and design and asks: What are the differences and similarities between art and design, particularly around aesthetic design, particularly around aesthetic issues? How does fine art inform design work and vice versa? What chal-

issues? How does fine art inform design work and vice versa? What challenges and opportunities exist for those working on both tracks? And particularly relevant in these economically straightjacketed times: Is being a designer/fine artist a workable combination or a livable life?

"2004 AD" showcases the fine art and design work of some who have made succeeded, including Didi Dunphy, Amy Franceschini, Nick Philip, Rex Ray, Donna Schumacher, Wayne Smith, Eefje theeuws, Bruce Tomb and Kim Weller. The LAB is located at 2948 16th St. (at Capp). For details call 415-864-8855 or go to www.thelab.org
Also this Friday, April 23, SF Camerawork will be presenting the 2003/04 James D. Phelan Art Award in Photography Exhibition at FiftyCrows Galery, 1074 Folsom St., from 5-8 p.m. The award is given to three California-born artists: Caitlin Atkinson, Kimberly Austin, and Fred Levy. For info, call 415-863-1001 or visit sfcamerawork.org 863-1001 or visit sfcamerawork.org

Zakir Hussain @ Zellerbach Hall

Zakir Hussain @ Zellerhach Hall Young world-music lovers of the '00 generation, in the spirit of the '60s, have taken to tabla maestro Zakir Hussain the way George Harrison took to Ravi Shankar. I'm grateful to my brilliant yoga teacher Stuart Siegel, just back from a long retreat in Thailand, for introducing me to Hussain's music, because in multiple live contexts, blending with musicians of various genres, from rock to electronica, Hussain has demonstrated tabla to be sain has demonstrated tabla to be more than just a backdrop for arcane spiritual rituals. In his hands it's a piv-

more than just a backdrop for arcane spiritual rituals. In his hands it's a pivotal instrument bridging the music gap between East and West.

"Masters of Percussion," presented this Sunday, April 25, by Cal Performances, offers an opportunity to experience India's melodic ragas and rhythmic tablas. Solos, duets and ensemble pieces by Hussain and his fellow musicians will explore the territory between Northern and Southern India. The tour is an outgrowth of Hussain's renowned tabla duet tours with his father, the legendary Ustad Allarakha. Joining Hussain on stage will be Taufiq Qureshi, Zakir's youngest brother and one of today's most sought-after rhythm programmers and percussionists, Vijay Chauhan, master of the dholki, a percussion instrument of Maharashtra that has been played in his family for generations; Ustad Sultan Khan, one of the foremost sarangi players of India; brothers Ganesh and Kumaresh, two dynamic violinists; and Manipuri lagoi Marup, a performance troupe combining dance, drumming and martial arts in its repertoire.

Tickets are \$22, \$30 & \$42. Showtime: 7pm. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus, Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berkeley. Call 510-642-9988 or visit www.calperfs.berkeley.edu ▼



Jacqui Naylor performs at Cafe Du Nord. See Sunday.

'Composers in the Mist' @ St. Francis Lutheran Church

MIST '@ St. Francis
Lutheran Church
Annual Spring Concert.
Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco unveils a fresh face to the
world of choral music with the
LGCSF Spring concert, "Composers in the Mist LGCSF Sings
be Bay," showcasing music by
living LGBT composers in our
midst. Under the direction of
Stephanie Lynne Smith, LGCSF
will present world premiers by
award-winning composer Richard
Link, Caroline Smith, and works
by some of the Bay Area's brightest talents. Now in its 25th anniversary season, LGCSF is the
oldest mixed chorus of its kind in
the world. With special guests, the
Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chonus, Composers in the Mist will
surely be a concert as diverse as
the LGBT community itself. \$10
or students and GALA affiliates
and \$15 for general admission.
Two concerts: Friday, April 23rd
at Bpm; and Saturday, April 24th
at 2pm. Both will take place at
LF-Rancis Lutheran Church, 152
Church SLT its in advance through
any Chorus member, by calling
at 15-861-7067, or at the door.
Info: www.lgssf.org

'Show Tunes Without

"Show Tunes Without A Show" @ CMC
Community Music Center (CMC)
presents "Show Tunes Without A Show. Songs by Don Seaver."
chronicling the life and times of SF SF composer Don Seaver. Featuring the voices of Milisac Carey, David Bicha, Bekka Fink, Kim Larsen, Heather Fell, Sean Owens, Cella Shuman, Brian Awawa, Amy Dondy, Brian Yates, Patty Wolfe, Gerson Perla, Rob Waring, Jennifer Heynenman, Sean Malynn and Joel Dunlap. With Damien Masterson on Sax/harmonica; Pete MacDonough, sax; Nannack Bonnel, Tim Youngblood, & Michael Hauser, Diano; Michael Stack, fiddle; Laura Boyntz, cello; Jim Sowers, Terry Waterman & Otto Huber, drums/percussion; Joel Dunlap & Ray Ramillosa, guitar; and Spike Connor, bass. Don Seaver started songwriting with a country/western band in Dallas in 1982 and wrote the musical Something Better. After moving to SF, he was commissioned to compose for the Paul Taylor Dance Company in 1990, Jaunching his 13 years of creating original music and sound design for theater. Seaver has worked with playwrights and directors Danny Schiel, Lee Sankowich, and Albert Takazauckas at Theatre Rhinoceros, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, SF Shakespeare Festival, and Marin Theatre Company. He is the recipient of the Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle Award for best score. All proceeds benefit CMC \$5-\$20.

8pm. CMC, 544 Capp St. Tix: 415-861-7431.

'The Sweet New' @ EXIT Stage Left

© EXIT Stage Left
Raymond Rea, director of the
award-winning short, Straightboy
Lessons, in conjunction with Density Over Duration Productions
presents: The Sweet New, a new
play with a new look at transsexuality. Leo has come to America to
escape the rising tide of Istalian
fascism. Lorenzo wants to be seen
as simply "American." And Kyle
is in the process of a transsexual
transition. All three struggle transition. All three struggle
who we are. Featuring Don DeMico, Catz Forsman, Damian Kalish,
Natalie Palan, Cassie Powell,
Charlie Reaves, Jeremy Sawyer.
Written and Directed by Raymond
Charlie Reaves, Jeremy Sawyer.
Written and Directed by Raymond
Fri. and Sat., April 23–24, and
Thu., Fri., & Sat. April 29, 30
and May 1, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15wos at
Bym. EXIT Stage Left, 156 Eddy
St (at Taylor & Mason, close to
Powell St Muni/BART Station).
Tix: 415–648–3091 or doverdpro@earthink.net. Info: www.sffringe.org/now.html#anchor3600

Legal Briefs

Legal Briefs & Muy Fuerte

@ Off-Market Theater
San Francisco's C.A.F.E presents
The Legal Briefs and Muy Fuerte,
a double bill of truly unique Improv. The Legal Briefs — Diana
Brown, Camp Owens and Howard
Stone and newest addition to "the
firm" guest artist Jonathan Caplan — will take you inside a
world of law and order, Court TV
and personal injury attorneys.
They'll present a fully improvised
long-form created from the suggestions of the audience turned
Jury. Improv heroes Muy Fuerte
make Italy and Mexico proud in
an evening of made up theater
from your suggestions. Come witness the strange improv that can
only come from disturbed individuals. Plus special guest musician
only come from disturbed individuals. Plus special guest musician
Steve Kalm SJL. 8gm. Off-Market
Theater, 965 Mission St. (at Fitth
SJ. Tix. 415-896-6477;
SJ. Tix. 415-896-6477;
Nawaaz Ahmed @ Off-Market Theater

Nawaaz Ahmed

@ Jon Sims Center
Jon Sims Center for the Arts presents the second performance of
'each bird walking (and other
poems)', by AlRspace artists-inresidence Nawaza Almed and
Freef all Dance Theater. This
work-in-progress performance will
be followed by a post-performance
discussion allowing the audience
and artist to speak directly will
one another. 'each bird walking
(and other poems)' seeks answers
to perplexing questions — why
walk when we can soar, how do
we reconcile individual desires
with filial and social obligations,
who are we with our sex taken
away? Using dance, poetry, music
and spoken word, 'each bird walking' is a meditation on families, @ Jon Sims Center

religion, love and sex, and the constructs that both nurture and confound us. The primary mission of FreeFail DanceTheater is to make art that raises questions and takes risks while searching for answers. Its artistic director Nawaaz Ahmed is a transplant from Tamil Nadu, India, where he spent a large part of his youth training in the sciences. Since graduating from Cornell University with a doctorate in Computer Science and a minor in Dance, he has been exploring ways to bring his cross-cultural views on art and life to stage. FreeFail DanceTheater is a first step in that direction. \$10-\$15 silding (NOTALFOP). Bpm. Jon Sims Center for the Arts, 1519 Mission St. between 11th St. and South Van Ness. Tix/info: 415-554-0402; www./pons/msctr.org.

'Mystery of Irma Vep' @ Berkeley Rep

W BETKEIEY REP
The Berkeley Repertory Theatre
presents Charles Ludlam's outrageously theatrical cult classic, The
Mystery of Irma Vep, directed by
Associate Artistic Director Les
Waters. A Lour-de-force quickchange comedy for two actors
playing more than 16 roles. Irma
Vep is a comic send-up of Victorian melodrama and classic horror
films featuring such characters as
a werewolf, a vampire and an
Egyptian mummy. Borrowing
from Joyce, Wilde, Poe and Ibsen,
classic horror movies, Gaslight,
Wuthering Heights, Gothic novels
and the movie Rebecca, Ludlam's
witty literary allusions and subversive political jabs take the play
far beyond campy slapstick comedy to make it an enduring modern
classic. S39-355. Group discounts
available; also student and senior
half-price "NotTix" go on sale at
noon at the Berkeley Rep Box 0ffice Tue.-Fri. for that evening's
performance (cash only). S20 tix
for anyone under the age of 30
(with valid ID; subject to availability; not offered for Sat. night).
Show runs thru May 23 at Berkeley Rep's Thrust Stage, 2025 Addison St. (one block from Berkeley's downtown BART station).
Theatre accessible to the handicapped, offering wheelchair seating and special services for the visually and hearing impaired. Tix:
Berkeley Rep Box Office at 510647-2949 or toll free at 88848RTTix. Info:
www.berkeleyrep.org

'Dating and Sex' @

*Dating and Sex' @ AHP Services Center REACH Workshop: "Dating and Sex: Communication and Negotiation." It's not always easy to figure out what we want from sex and affection, Guys often don't know when, in the course of dating, to have sex or express affection, or how to talk about sex or to disclose HIV status or other health info to someone they're dating. Join other in looking at these Issues and come up with a plan to enhance your overall health and well-being. For gay men regardless of HIV status. Free. 6-30-9-30pm. AHP services Center, 1930 Market St. RSVP (required): 415-476-6448, ext. 1.

Guilty. @ The Stud

'Guilty' @ The Stud Guilty' @ The Stud

Guilty," A bastard pop rock elec

tro hiphop watever party presented by DJs Adrian, The Mysterious
D, and Supposition' Spelling, with
DJ Mr. Anthony, Go-go Dancers,
drink specials, CD giveaways, SS,
10 pm-3 am. Every Friday. At
The Stud, 9th and Harrison.

GAWK @ Trax

GAWK @ Trax
Why stand there in a cold line on a Friday night? Why pay a cover charge to get into a bar to listen on usic that is wack? There's a Friday night alternative. Join the Gay Artists and Writers Kollective. Friday nights at Trax in the Haight. Jon Sugar, GAWK guru with a PhD in Mixology from Disco Tech, will answer all your musical questions from the DJ booth as he plays bubble gum, pop, soul, rock, dance, techno, down tempo, deep house and country. Absolutely Free: No Cover, No Minimum. 9pm-midnight TRAX, 1437 Haight St. (at Ashbury).



A scene from "Coppelia" in Balanchine, screening at SFPALM. See Monday.

Sat

'Dirty Blonde' @ New Conservatory Theatre Center

The New Conservatory Theatre Center (NCTC) presents the romantic comedy Dirty Blonde by Claudia Shear, directed by Doyle Ott. Conceived by Shear and James Lapine, Dirty Blonde was a Broadway hit during its premiere run in 2000-2001. It's a touching comedy about Jo and Charlie, two New York honers-turned-lovers who learn to accept themselves through their mutual obsession with the voluptious film and stage icon Mae West, Dirty Blonde explores both the unlikely countship of two avid Mae West fans following their chance meeting at her gravesite, and the evolution of West's willful career from young vaudevillian upstart and overnight wisecracking sexy film star to the lonely isolation of her later years. The play is more than a story of a star's life and career — it's a triumphant sweet-tempered love affair. Playwright Shear, born in Brooklyn in 1963, first came to attention performing her own monologue, Blown Sideways Through Life (produced off-Broadway in 1993), which detailed the 64 jobs she'd held before writing the play. Shear played both Mae West and Jo in the Broadway production of Dirty Blonde. Director Ott has directed throughout California and Arizona. Most recently he remounted his productions of Get Real and Buzz for NCTC's YouthAware Outreach Program. Ott is the Artistic Director of Splash Circus Theatre in Emeryville, \$38 for Opening Night (wypost-show reception). Other nights \$18-\$28. Runs April 2-June 26, Wed-Sat. @ Bpm & Sundays, may 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 2pm. May 15th performance Captioned for the Hearing Impaired. NCTC, 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market), Tix: 415-861-8972; www.nctcsf.org

Breast Cancer Action

@ Oakland Asian **Cultural Center**

Cultural Center
Breast Cancer Action's Town
Meeting for Activists: "Taking
Care in a Toxic Time". This
unique event will feature acclaimed author Anne Lamott and
stellar public health advocate Dr.
Sandra Hernandez of The San Francisco Foundation. The meeting will bring together activists,
educators, physicians and people
from all walks of life to learn
about protecting ourselves and our
communities in toxic times. Find
out how to take action to eliminate our exposure to toxic chemicals and protect public health.

Workshop and discussion topics include: the politics of breast cancer, questioning mammography, the cosmetics industry and breast cancer, applying the precautionary principle to public health in Oakland and beyond, and envision ing the breast cancer research revolution. Simultaneous interpretation in Cantonese and Spanish will be available. Refreshments will be served. Free to all. 1-5pm. Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 0akland, Asian Cultural Center, 1415-243-9301 x 17; www.bcaction.org.

Tracy Ward Master Class @ Shotwell Studios

Class @ Shotwell Studios
The Experimental Performance Institute (EPI) at New College of California presents: "Tracy Ward Master Class: A Work in Progress". Students from the Experimental Performance Institute, under the direction of Tracy Ward, Master Artist in Residence present a work in progress exploring principles of direction, dramaturgy and critique. Tracy Ward has been directing in the Bay Ares for more than 20 years. Her work includes children's theater, opera, classics, with a special focus on new plays. Directing credits includes, Oakland Public Theater, Lunatique Fantastique, Jon Sims Center Alchemy Program, Thick House, and Brava. She holds an MFA in Directing from UCLA. EPI at New College of California is an epicenter for interdiscipilinary artists whose work marries theatrical inmovation and social activism. 55-10 sliding. 7pm. Shotwell Studios, 3252. Juffs La Shotwell. Tix: 415-437-3487.

'Catch Up' @ JSC *Catch Up? @ JSC

Jon Sims Center's (JSC) presents

"Catch Up. An Evening of Contemporary Dance," a special bene
fit featuring Alfspace program
(Artists in Residence) alumin
Stephen Pelton Dance Theater,
Sue Roginski & Christy Funsch
and Tara Brandel, Series curated
by Alma Esperanza Cunningham.
We catch up with these exciting
artists as the best of the best get
down and dirty, proving once
again why JSC is on the vanguard
of cutting edge San Francisco art.
515–525 sliding (NOTAFLOF).
8pm. 1519 Mission St. (between
11h St & So. Van Ness).
Tix/inic. 554-0402; www.jonsimsettr.org or acteva.com

Love, Lust & Laughter @ Club Savoy, Santa Clara

The Three Ring Rainbow Court of Love, Lust & Laughter present a fantastic show including World Famous Magician Ryan Adler, and all-live vocals with A Gospel Halleluja Revival, I Love Being A Girl, Elvis, Tranny Trashcan Trezette, and Cowboy Christopher

\$6 donation. Doors open 6pm. Show starts 7pm. The Savoy, 3546 Flora Vista Ave., Santa Clara. Info: Empress 34 Rachael at 408-509-2321

SF Hiking Club @ Mission Peak

(a) MISSION PEAK
Join other outdoors lovers for a
Mission Peak Hike. Enjoy spring
wildflowers and the best view of
the south end of the Bay. It's a
moderate 11-mile hike with a
2,500-ft. elevation gain. Meet
10am at Ed Levin Park (Hwy 237
east thru Milpitals.) Club info:
415-487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

Triangle Tackwon Do @ Dolores Park

@ Dolores Park
Triangle Taekwon Do is holding its
annual kickathon this Saturday,
April 24 at 9am at Dolores Park
The members have been collecting
sponsor pledges, and in order to
earn the pledges they must perform 1,000 kicks in an hour (or
17 kicks per minute). This effort
benefits both June PrideFest and
the SF Center, and also enables
Triangle to hold self-defense seminars for other non-profit organizations. Despite the Bay Area's reputation for being "gay friendly",
attacks on LGBT persons still
occur. Triangle was formed in Nowember 1998 in response to the
murder of Matthew Shepard, in
the effort to empower and protect murder of Matthew Snepard, in the effort to empower and protect the local gay community. Trian-gle TKD works to promote self-de-fense and physical well-being within in the LGBT community, and to promote martial arts in the bay area. Info: 415-495-1888; triangletkd.org.

Youth Gender Project

Youth Gender Project

@ The Center

Calling all Youth ages 25 and under who are Transgender, genderqueer, intersex, androgynous, bi-gendered, butch, crossdressers, trannyboys, trans, drag kings, drag queens, gender-bending, FTM, MTF, trannygiris, pangendered, gender, trannyboys, trans, drag kings, drag queens, gender-bending, FTM, MTF, trannygiris, pangendered, fem/me, transsexual, two-spirit, questloning, partners and friends of any of the abover. Youth Gender Project is creating new programs to serve Transgender, Gender-Variant, intersex and Questioning (TGIQ) youth. They want your input. What would you like to see the group doing? Come to Youth Gender Project's Community Meeting today to get and give information. It's a forum to express your needs and an opportunity for TGIQ youth to connect. Refreshments served. Youth Gender Project is a youth-led organization working to empower, advacate for, and liberate transgender, gender-variant, intersex and questioning (TGIQ) youth. Free. 2-4pm. Youth Space, SF LGBT Community Center; 1800 Market St. Info: 415-865-5625; youth-genderproject.org.

Kristen Sard & Kerri Stephens @ Varnish Fine Art

Stephens @ Varnish Fine Art Opening reception: Varnish Fine Art Opening reception: Varnish Fine Art celebrates its first, year an-increasing with a two-woman show-featuring photographer Kristen Sard and Varnish principal, scuip-tor Kerri Stephens. Kristen Sard relocated to San Francisco from her native New York in 2000, and began work involving western, desert imagery. She starts by building seemingly outdoor, site-specific, staged settings complete with handmade costumes for participating models, and then photographs the scenes reflection on silvery sheets of mylar. No computer-generated effects are used. Kerri Stephens, one of the owners of Varnish Fine Art. (along with Jen Rogers) works as a sculptor primarily in bronze and steel. She employs an exaggerated, figurative style to investigate nonconformity, nature, beauty and ugliness, as well as her views on how those notions intertwine. Entertainment at reception provided by the bona-fide Dragarati of "Trannyshack." Varnish is a space for contemporary art, wine and social chemistry in downtown San Francisco, Reception: 5pm-11. Show runs through May 22. 77 Natoma. Info. 415-222-6131; www.varnishifineart.com

'Ladies Night'

@ Mighty
Debut: "Ladies Night," SF's ne monthly party for gay men (eve fourth Sunday), with music by

some of the world's finest lady
DJs: Tracy, Ellen Ferrato, and
Honey Dijon. Visual images by
Juanita More and her Booty Call
Boys. Party at SF's new & beautiful nightclub/gallery. Mighty, 119
Utah St. (at 15th St.). Bpm-Zam.
21-w/ID. Info: fadiesnightsf.com;
juanitamore.com

Jacqui Navlor @ Cafe Du Nord

© Cafe Du Nord
Composer/Songstress Jacqui Naylor brings her distinctive artistry
to Cafe Du Nord, showcasing her
pop, rock and jazz, diverse original compositions and signature interpretations of gems from the
American popular songbook. Her
three albums have been released
on her own Ruby Records imprint,
distributed nationally through
Ryko Disc. in 2001 she produced
Live At The Plush Room, an acclaimed concert album. \$1.2.
Doors open 7pm; show at 8pm.
Tix: 415-861-5016. Info:

SF Hiking Club @ Rocky Ridge/Devil's Hole

Hole
Join other outdoors lovers for a
Rocky Ridge(Devil's Hole Hike.
Enjoy sweepin views over the San
Ramon Valley from Rocky Ridge
and woodsy seclusion in Devil's
Hole. It's a moderate 8-mile hike
with a 1,600-ft. elevation gain.
Meet 9-15am under the large
Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Info: 415-487-6410;
www.shiking.com

Gay & Leshian Sierrans @ Mt. Tam

SIEPTANS (2) Mt. Tam Join Gay and Lesbian Sierrans for an 8-mile, J.200-ft. elevation-gain like on Mt. Tam, done at a moderate pace. Start at Rock Springs and hike on northside trails to the top at East Peak. Bring lunch, liquids, layered clothing and hiking boots. Meet "J-Sam under the Safeway sign at Market & Dolores for carpools. Info: Shay, sierraclub.org/GLS

Terese Genecco @

Terese Genecco @ Blake's, Walnut Creek
Jazz singer Terese Genecco performs in support of Diablo Valley
AIDS Center's (DVAC) benefit,
featuring a reception and a silent
auction, elegant brunch buffet,
and performance by Ms. Genecco,
a rising star who has performed at
The Plush Room and The Herbst
Theater in SF and has shared the
stage with Wesla Whitfield, Mike
Greensill and Raynee Rainbolt,
\$65, 10:30am brunch, followed by performance. Blake's at Boundary
Oak, 3800 Valley Vista Rd, Walnut Creek. Tix: 925-686-3822;
www.dvac.org

Mon

Pippi Lovestocking

Pippi Lovestocking

(a) 'QComedy'

"QComedy' presents Monday
Night Gay Comedy hosted by the
magnificent Pippi Lovestocking,
with Lisa Geduldig, Erin Souza,
Ray Ferrer, bob McIntlyre,
Bernard Henderson, Enzo Lombard-Quintero, and Bridget
Schwartz. Pippi is the inspiration
for the annual "Pipstock" celebration at the Russian River and
has hosted the stand-up showcase
Stood Up and has performed at
Steve Murray's Vira Variety, \$8\$15 sliding (NOTAFLOF). Reception at 7:30pm; show at 8pm; show at 8pm;
has 0 Market St. (at Octavia).
Tix/in(i): 415-541-5610;
www.QComedy.com

Ralanchine on Screen

Balanchine on Screen @ SFPALM

OSFPALM

The San Francisco Performing Arts Library & Museum, in tandem with its current exhibition George Balanchine: Ballet Master (through June 19) presents the third film in its ongoing "Balanchine on Screen" series: the renowned American Masters doctomentary Balanchine, which originally aired on PBS's "Great Performances" in 1984. The film is the definitive survey of Balanchine's life and work. Directed by Merrill Brockway and produced by Judy Kinberg, Balanchine is filled with astonishing archival footage and rare interviews with the choreographer himself. Presented courtesy of Thirteen/WNET New York. Free. Space Limited, 98m. SFPALM, Veteran's Bidg, 401 Van Ness Ave, 4th Floor. Reservations: 415-255-4800. Info: Sfpalm.org



Toronto-based queer esoteric unclassifiable indie-rock band Broken Social Scene plays Bimbo's 365 Club. See

'Lit at The Canvas'

'Lit at The Canvas' "Lit at The Canvas" a celebration of SF literature, presents readings by Alvin Orloff (lyricist for The Blowdryers; author The Unsinkable Bambi Lake and I Married an Earthling) whose novel Gutter Boys will be coming out this June; M. I. Blue (co-producer of SF's yearly DadaFest in July); "Techsploitation" columnist Annalee Newitz (editor of other magazine); and live robots. Emcee' dby Kevin Smokker (book critic for the San Francisco Chronice, contributor to NPR, resident of the SF Writer's Groto, editor of the weekly newsletter The Smoke Signal). Produced by Melinda Adams, a confused DIY renaissance woman, event planner, stage tech, writer, filmmaker, and actress. Free (hat will be passed). 7:30pm. The Canvas Cafe (9th Avenue & Lincoln). Info: www.illycat.com

<u>Jye</u>

'Fling' @ El Rio

"Filing" (@ El RII)
Come experience "Filing," a queer
and trans club night. All of the
fun, with No Strings Attached.
DJs Garcia Sinclair & Nafis spin
Hip-Hop, Brazillian, Dld Skool
and Neo-Soul, Deep House, World
Beat and more. Drink Specials:
\$2 Margarita's, \$2.50 Ace Pear
Cider. No cover. 8pm-12am. El
Rio, 3156 Mission St. (@ Cesar
Chavez). Info: 415-282-3325;
www.elriosf.com

Wed

Bruce Vilanch in 'Hairspray' @ Golden Gate Theatre

Hairspray¹ @ Golden Gate Theatre

Preview: Best of Broadway, under the direction of Carole Shorenstein Hays and Scott E. Nederlander, presents Mairspray, directed by Jack o'Brien, with music by Marc Shaiman, lyrics by Shaiman and Scott Wittman, book by Marc Moren Homas Meehan, O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan, and choreography by Jerry Mitchell. Hairspray is set in 1962 Baltimore and tells the story of Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, with only one passion — to dance! She wins a spot on the local TV dance program, 'The Corny Collins show' and, overnight, is transformed from outsider to teen celeb. But can a plus-size trend-setter in dance and fashion vanquish the program's reigning princess, win the heart of Link Larkin, and integrate a TV show without denting her 'do? Comic legend Bruce Vilanch stars as Edna Turnblad, the role made famous on Broadway by Harvey Fierstein. Previews: \$36.50-\$78.50; April 28-May 4, 8pm Wed-Sat, 2pm Thu. & Sat. matiness; 2pm & 7:30pm Sun. Opens May 5. Show runs thru July 3. Golden Gate Theatre, I Taylor St. (at Markel). Tix: 415-512-7770. Info; 415-551-2000; bestofbroadway-sf.com; hairsprayontour.com

2gu

Broken Social Scene @ Bimbo's

@ Bimbo's
In concert: Broken Social Scene, a
Toronto-based college-bred sortof-queer but musically unclassifiable indie-rock band — described
as 'the indie rock Wu Tang Clan'
by band member Brendan Canning
— comprised of more than a
dozen players and basically an excuse for friends to hang together
and play art-school music. Plus:
Jason Colett. Bimbo's 365 Club,
1025 Columbus Ave. 18+w/ID,
Info: 415-478-2277; 707-5462277; 408-998-2277. Tix: Club
Box Office, 415-474-0365; ticketweb.com.

'Dangerous Families' @ Modern Times Bookstore

Bookstore
Healers, Heartbreakers and Homicidal Maniacs: Editor Mattilda,
aka Matt Bernstein Sycamore
presents three dangerous readers
from the groundbreaking new anthology, Dangerous Families;
Queer Writing on Surviving, which
goes beyond the recovery narrative to create a new queer literature of investigation, exploration
and transformation. With Daphne
Gottlieb, Veronica Monet, Jessy
Luanni Wolf, 7pm. 888 Valencia
@ 20th. Info: 415-282-9246

'Out to Eat' @ Hyatt Rickey's Hotel, Palo Alto

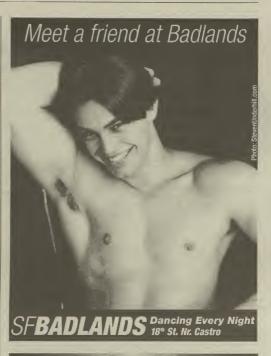
Hotel, Palo Alto
Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, a
long-time supporter of gay rights,
will serve as the Keynote Speaker
at the 5th Annual "Out To Eat"
benefit for the Mountain Viewbased Outlet Program, the only
program of its kind on the MidPeninsula supporting and empowering gay and lesbian youth. \$75.
6-9pm. 4219 E1 Camino Real,
Palo Alto. Info: Community
Health Awareness Council, 650965-2020; www.chacmv.org/outlet.htm.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.





KATHLEEN MYERS AS MARTHA STEWART • CHRIS COBB AS GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER TRACY CHIAPPONE AS ANNA NICOLE SMITH • MATT ALBER AS DONALD TRUMP ©SSPI 2004 Photo: David Allen

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2051 Market at Church • Info: 864-3767



Massage Appointments • 255-4921

Brotherhood for all

ABW 2004: great weekend, great winners

by Mister Marcus

ive men, four women, five "boys" and three "girls" from "boys" and three "girls" from across the nation stepped onto the turf of competition last weekend, April 16-19, at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia — just a stone's throw from the nation's capitol

American Brotherhood Weekend (ABW) 2004 was an impressive event at a beautiful hotel with great food, service and hospitality. Few if any compalatist were

great 100d, service and nospitali-ty. Few if any complaints were heard from the almost 300 pack-age-holders who schmoozed, net-worked and otherwise enjoyed the "American Leather Family" gath-American Leatine Painly gattering. Among those present were almost two dozen IML 2004 candidates and five of the IML judges who will meet face-to-face next month in Chicago.

The weather was balmy, the atmosphere was convivial, and the whole affair looked like a huge exercise in networking and "getting to know you" all around.

to know you" all around.

It was a great privilege to join
the judging panel for ABW 2004
which included outgoing Bill
Mitchell, Sheryl Dee and Boy Jeff,
along with head judge Judy
Tallwing McCarthy, IML 79
David Kloss, ABW founder
Mik Miller, John Weis,
and Sandy "Mama"
Reinhardt. Reinhardt.

Reinhardt.

The tally masters
were Jim Raymond,
Peter Kincheloe and
Peter Lloyd, who
whipped out the results in record time.

There was a grand
Petrol of Colors with the

Parade of Colors, with the national anthem sung at the first session by Danny Alford, and by Richie Johnson in the second session. The master of ceremonies, Frank

The master of ceremonies, Frank Nowicki, wasted no time getting down to business and moved the show along on both nights with no problems.

Five men competed for the American Leather Man title: Benton Bourgeois of New Orleans; Nigel Cotterill of Cincinnati, Ohio; Terry Denby of Lancaster, California; Bob Napolitano of New York City; and Dale Rush of Kansas City, Missouri.



Meet the ABW winners (top, L-R): Girl Beth, American Leather Girl, Robert Napolitano, American Leather Man; and "Storm", AmericanLeatherWoman. Kneeling: Terry Brown, American Leather Boy.

Four women competed: J.D. Pour Women competed: J.D. Dykes of Atlanta, Georgia; Amy Flory of Kansas City, Missouri; Evan of Oakland, California; and Tracie "Storm" Strack of Asbury

Tracie "Storm" Strack of Asbury Park, New Jersey. Three "girls" on the roster competed: Beth Abate of Fresno, California; Khobie Alexan-der of Denver, Colorado; and Jen Johnson of Kansas

City, Missouri.
The five "boys" com-

peting were Terry Brown of Kansas City, Missouri; Jack Garcia of San Francisco, California; David Hudson of Charlotte, North Car-olina; Shawn Quish of

Dallas, Texas; and Glenn Shaw of Austin, Texas.

Austin, Texas.

The contestants were put through the usual personal interviews, the leather image display, the speech and "hot wear" segments, and the fantasy segments. The latter were fun and imaginative but the one that created the tive, but the one that created the biggest uproar was Leather man Bob Napolitano's fantasy which included the "incarceration" of a certain Wicked Witch of the East — including a gag in the mouth, handcuffs, binding with strands of lighted tubing, and a three-foot-high blond wig as an exercise blow was a rubber mask of G.W. Bush. The audience roared, stomped and ranted and raved at

this turn of events.

This is not to deny the origi-This is not to deny the origi-nality of all the other contestants, but it's always fun to see the big kahuna/iconic personality in "compromising" situations. The crowd loved it. And all this was accomplished with only two re-hearsals!

The bootblacks of the nation were on hand all weekend as were numerous vendors. And of course, the basket auction of the contestants' imagination. New Yorker Jo Arnone did a magnifirorker to Arnone did a magnin-cent job raising thousands of dol-lars auctioning off art work, con-testant baskets for their travel fund and depleting everyone's

wallet and plastic.

The opening night reception was hosted by the California Leather Family, emcee'd by Daddy's manager Bob Brunson and Mr. SF Leather Julian Marshburn, and feather Julian Marshburn, and feather the company of the turing a disco diva after the sump-tuous cocktail and buffet for package holders. Mama managed to pin another record number of people who squealed with delight at join-ing her "family". At the ABW competition, the

page 39 ▶

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Leather

Thursday, April 22

Final finals of Bare Chest Calendar for 2005 at the Powerhouse tonight at 2130 (probably later). The final 12-plus cover men will be chosen tonight.

Weekend, April 23-24

Regiment of Black & Tans "Spring Maneuvers" all weekend in Los Angeles area, with a \$75 price tag at this date. For more info, surf to www.blackand-

tans.org.
The 15 Association bar night is Friday at the Loading Dock and their monthly play party is Saturday night. Call 673-0452 for invite & info.

Saturday, April 24

The Hole in San Diego celebrates its 50th birthday with big festivities tonight. It is one of the longstanding institutions there.

Sunday, April 25

Not a leather event, the AEF Annual Dinner/Awards event, The Fortune Teller's Ball, takes place at 119 Utah and comes with a \$90

Wednesday, April 28

Leather Buddies gather at 933 Harrison, with doors open 2000-2300. Strict Dress Code. No

cologne or sneakers. Call 777-HEAD.

Weekend, April 30-May 2

C.L.A.W. in Cleveland, Ohio, with a plethora of workshops, fundraising, food, play parties, auc-tions, etc. Visit www.clawinfo.org

Saturday, May 1

Mr. No. Cal. Sir Brian presents a benefit at the Eagle Tavern to support BCEF and No. Calif. Sir/boy travel fund. Auction (a complete set of SF Eagle anniversary pins), entertainment, and an \$8

Saturday, May 9 Mr. Triple R Leather contest at that fabulous resort in Guerneville. Details to be announced. Always a fun event at the River.

Wednesday, May 12 Golden Shower Buddies splish-splash tonight t 933 Harrison. Jump in and get wet. For info: 777-HEAD.

Saturday, May 15

First in line for the 2005 Mr. SF Leather title tonight at the Edge Bar when Frank Vasconcellos "steps aside" for Mr. Edge Leather 2005 from 2000 to 2400. Don't miss this one!



American idols? Ben Campezzi, Ken Scott, Jason Adonis, Vince Taylor and Derec Lang in American Porn Stars

Karrdinal points

by John F. Karr

he television spoof American Porn Star launches itself quite merrily. "Remember," the show's chatty announcer points out to the humpy contestants, "it's not just about being pretty. It's about being sexual." A panel of celebrity judges is going to choose which pair of contestants has the best sex. A clever idea, no? Well, someone should have told the filmmaker to remember, it's not maker to remember, it's not just about being clever. It's about being sexual.

American Porn Star is so aswirl with ideas both clever and cutesy that a lot of ooh-aah is lost in hoo-

I know

porn directors think that heaping on plot and varieties of distracting hoopla somehow changes them from pornographers to filmmakers. But a real filmmaker would realize whether his invenwould realize whether his invention was supporting the sex or distracting from it. American Porn Star follows all too closely the American Idol format, with cheesy theme music butting in and show logos tumbling dizzily before our eyes every other moment. There are clips of rejected contestants, not coited sound bits interviews. post-coital sound-bite interviews, and commercial breaks after each performance, during which the judges dish. This being porn, the judges have to become aroused while watching the contestants. Yet watching them watch the boys is a definite violation of Karr's Cardinal Rule of Porn: Don't Cut Away from the Sex! And there's further interruption, with the judges telling the performers what to do by shouting at them, and dousing whatever sparks the per-formers may have been kindling in favor of the rote execution of Sex Act Points of Interest #3-12.

Sex Act Points of Interest #3-12. Yet the Jet Set Team has cast with their usual bevy of beefy young beauties, and they are gen-erously given more than the usual time allotments to display them-

Iason Adonis certainly deserves his last name, and, with a new, flattering haircut and a shaved crotch, he's never looked more creamy,

or been more dreamy than he is here. Trouble is, Jason seems rather narcotized, and this isn't a gay Sonnambula ("Oh, look, Elvino is sleepwalk-ing on the

roof again — and Karrnal Knowledge

— and he's not wearing his nightshirt this time!"). Fortunately, quarterbacksize judge Tag Eriksson jumps in to give bottom Rico Suave a tumble, and the scene roils to an end.

Pump action

Vince Taylor's partner is a no-show, so he jacks off. His dark, manly good looks are heartening, but there's little sense of eroticism or exhibitionism in his dutiful performance. He closes his eyes and pumps. Judge Lorenzo Vargas takes charge of beefy Derec Lang, in one of those food-is-sexy se-quences I'm so wary of. With due reason. The bottle of chocolate reason. The bottle of chocolate syrup Vargas empties on Lang is so clotted it looks like little pooso clotted it looks like little poodle turds dropping. Fortunately, it gets smooshed in with a bottle of maple syrup, and the boys slide around on each other erotically. Vargas massages the huge mound that Lang's cock forms within his trunks, and then pulls it out and slowly savors it. It's as beefy as the boy is. When Lang gets on top of Vargas to suck his sweetened, uncut cock, the syrup drips off the succulent nips of his fleshy breasts. This is a coupling that should have the viewers calling in their votes. Too bad it's interrupted by the obligatory whippedcream routine, which creates such a mess the boys have to hose down so they can continue.

down so they can continue.

Alec Powers tangles with Ben
Campezzi, and though they're Campezzi, and though they're wearing harnesses and Powers brandishes a crop, this is no more leathersex than if you put Sweet Lips in a sling. After discarding the costumes, Powers throws a sturdy fuck to a greatly responsive Campezzi. They're the best so far, exhibiting actual chemistry.

Such palpable mutual pleasure reaches greater heights in the finale with Tag Eriksson and newcomer Ken Scott. This sturdily built young demigod makes his Jet Set debut, and seems sure to win the American Porn Star title. He's a real turn-on. In a movie

He's a real turn-on. In a movie that's had hardly any fucking that wasn't doggie-style, Ken's sitting on Tag's rammer lets us thrill to the big round globes of his meaty ass pushing down onto Tag's big round cock. It makes Tag spray his load most dramatically. But there's a surprise upset, and, wouldn't ya know it, Jason Ado-nis is declared the winner. I found nis is declared the winner. I found that mighty disappointing. But I was consoled by the movie's sweet denouement. When the credits have rolled, Ken wanders back onto the deserted set, sporting a tremendous hard-on, and beats off for us. The sterling quality of his erection equals that of his handsome face and strong body. I can't wait to see him in a movie where he's treated as the winner. where he's treated as the winner. Pics of all the guys at Jet-set2000.com; (800) 522-5557. ▼









Mister Marcus

"moment of truth" (which I call the "Twilight Zone," because it's always around that time that the winners are announced) came, and the Second Runner-Up was Terry Denby; The First Runner-Up was Dale Rush; and American ather Man 2004 is Robert

The winnersfor American Leather Woman were Second Runner-Up J.D. Dykes; First Run-ner-Up Ms. Evan; and the winner,

In the boy category, the Second Runner-Up was boy Dave; the First Runner-Up was boy Shawn, and American Leather Boy 2004 is

Terry Brown

Terry Brown.
Perhaps the most-awaited announcement was the inaugural of American Leather Girl. The judges all admitted it was not an easy choice. In the end, however, the Second Runner-Up was Girl Khobie; First Runner-Up was Girl Jen; and the first-ever American Leather Girl is Girl Beth of Frespo California.

no, California.

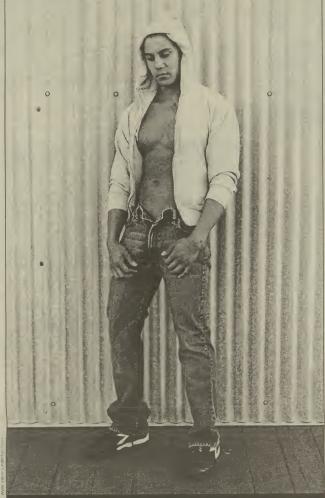
It was bedlam in the house as hundreds of cameras flashed and the cheering erupted enough to shake the walls of the ballroom. A shake the walls of the ballroom. A sedate, non-assuming woman, Beth seemed almost nonchalant and cool during the contest phases. Her demeanor was respectful, gracious, not at all harsh, and didn't display an avaricious demeanor in pursuing her goal.

There was no coy cutsie-ness, just a confident woman who was "her-self" and won the votes of the

ABW 2004 was a huge success with some \$39,000 raised through various activities of the weekend (which includes some \$8440 for the travel fund of each winner) If you've never been to ABW you should try to attend next year. You will not regret it.

Missing Dildeaux

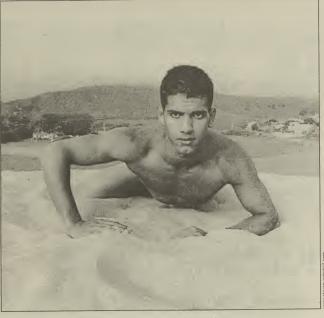
The winners of the Golden Dildeaux Awards were ecstatic last Saturday night, but alas the winners' names did not reach me by my deadline. And not one word came my way about the bare chest semi-finals on Thursday. Time will tell. Stay tuned!



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PARTING **GLANCES**

Bob/Paul Jr flight #18 3/19/04 American Airlines SF0/JFK seat 26J. You were on your way home for your mother's birthday. Me, Asian, seat 25J. Can't forget your smile. Would love to meet you. © 71157

Eros, Monday April 5 10pm You: Tall, lean, hairy, 30'ish, base-ball cap. Me: Same, blond/blue, goa-tee. Your deep gaze and genile touch still occupy my mind. Our paths crossed for a reason, please call. 22 71174

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HIV+ 37yrs Straight Looking/Acting I'm looking for a caucasian under 40 that likes movies and quiet and romantic dinners. I'm Latino, 51½, bits short hair, mustache & goatee. I like hiking, swimming, biking and long walks on the beach & park. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 71155

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needs regular service. I'm 58, long
time gymed attractive and friendly.
Love to please my man. Must be nonpromiscuous. 22 71160

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71168

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↑ 71166

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OTHER

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Other people's songs

by Gregg Shapiro

t a recent taping of the PBS Soundstage series in which
Ronald Isley of the legendary soul group The Isley
Brothers and Burt Bacharach performed together, Isley pointed out
that he'd been waiting 40 years to
have the chance to record "Make
It Easy on Yourself." He does so on Here I Am: Isley Meets Bacharach (DreamWorks), an album of lushly orchestrated Bacharach covers which spans 40 years of the song-writer's work.

which spans 40 years of the song-writer's work.

Isley opens with "Alfie," which asks the eternal question, "What's it all about, Alfie?" "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head" is given a refreshingly soulful new reading, and Isley takes up residence in "A House Is Not a Home." One of the pleasures of this CD is knowing that other Bacharach (and Hall David) tunes, such as "The Look of Love," "This Guy's In Love with You," and "Close to You," will now be introduced to an entirely new generation of listeners. Two more recent Bacharach (and Tonio K) compositions, "Count on Me" and recent Bacharach (and Tonio K) compositions, "Count on Me" and "Love's (Still) the Answer," are heard for the first time on a domestic release, and Bacharach himself sings the introduction to the pertinent "Windows of the World," before Isley assumes the

lead.

As Time Goes By - The Great
American Songbook Vol. II (J) is
Rod Stewart's sequel to his unexpectedly popular 2002 album of
standards. It Had To Be You - The
Great American Songbook. A few
years shy of his 60th birthday,
Stewart is attempting to age
gracefully with these collections,
and all that really happens is that
Stewart's shortcomings are magnified. The production values are Stewart's shortcomings are magnified. The production values are impeccable, and the orchestrations are befitting the material. Sadly, it's Stewart who sounds out of place. The three opening tracks, "Time After Time," "I'm in the Mood for Love," and "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," are relatively. harmless. although Get Around Much Anymore," are relatively harmless, although Stewart performs them at a distance. The first misstep is the Cher duet, "Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered," because duets are tricky. The same can be said for the duet with Queen Latifah on "A. Timp Gees Bye." It's admirable "As Time Goes By." It's admirable for Stewart to embrace these songs, I only wish he didn't sing Because it lacks the focus of El Baile Aleman, an album of Kraftwerk covers interpreted in a tongue-in-cheek Latin fashion, Fiesta Songs (Emperor Norton) by Senor Coconut pales in comparison. Some of the cover material from the '70s & '80s works better than others. "Riders on the Storm" (The Doors), "Smooth Operator" (Sade) and "Beat It" (Michael) already had vague Latin beats to begin with, so they make the transition better than, say, "Smoke on the Water" (Deep Purple) or "Blue Eyes" (Elton John). As a novelty album, Fiesta Songs is more office party than frat party,

As a novelty album, Fiesta Songs is more office party than frat party, but there's still fun to be had.

Arabesque (Narada World) by Jane Birkin, ex-wife and protégé of the late Serge Gainsbourg, is a concert recording in which she pays tribute to the exotic and erotic tunes of the French singer-songwriter. It's fascinating to hear Gainsbourg's songs, many of which were sexually suggestive, interpreted by a woman, especially one with such a firm connection to him.

tion to him.

The Wayfaring Strangers are a kind of bluegrass supergroup comprised of Tracy Bonham, Ruth Ungar, Aoife O'Donovan, Laszlo Gardony, Matt Glaser, Tony Trischka and others. They revive a variety of traditional tunes on This Train (Rounder). Fans of

Variety of Irautional times on This Train (Rounder). Fans of Americana, insurgent country, contemporary folk, bluegrass and even klezmer will appreciate the spirited interpretations of songs such as "Columbus Stockade Blues," "Cluck Old Hen," and "Walking After Midnight."

Several mostly Canadian artists pay tribute to legendary Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot (Borealis/Northernblues). Those paying homage range from Lightfoot's contemporaries Jesse Winchester, Bruce Cockburn and Maria Muldaur to contemporary Canadian acts Cowboy Junkies, The Tragically Hip and Ron Sexsmith.

Joe Doggs, whose vocals are vaguely reminiscent of Jimmy Scott, joins Hammond B-3 organ-Scott, Joins Hammond B-3 organist Joey De Francesco on his album of standards covers Falling in Love Again (Concord Jazz). George Bugatti applies his smoky baritone to nine standards, a U2 cover and a pair of originals on A Night for Romance (Fynsworth Alley).



BAY AREA REPORTER ERSONALS

MASSAGE

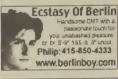




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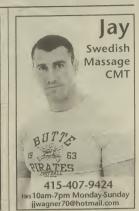
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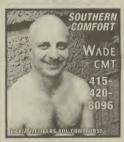
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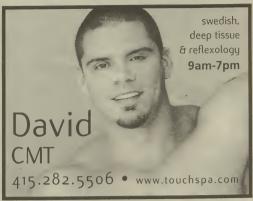
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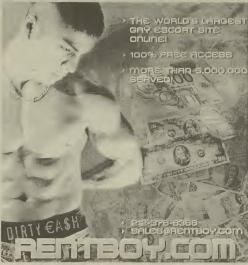
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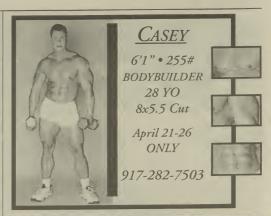
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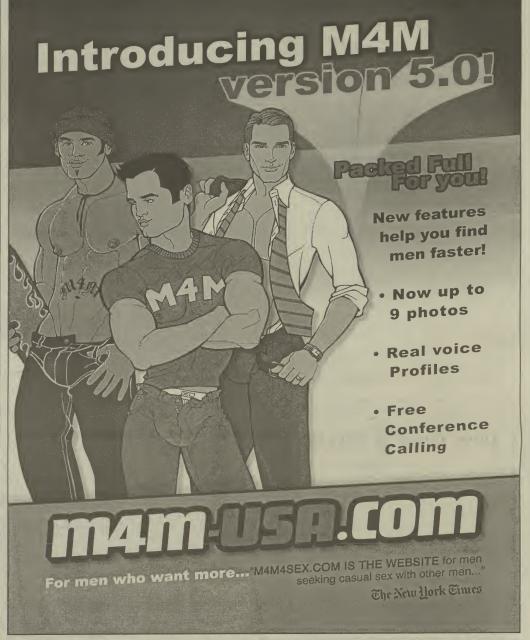
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Friday:

6pm RAGS Welcome Party PAGE HODEL

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